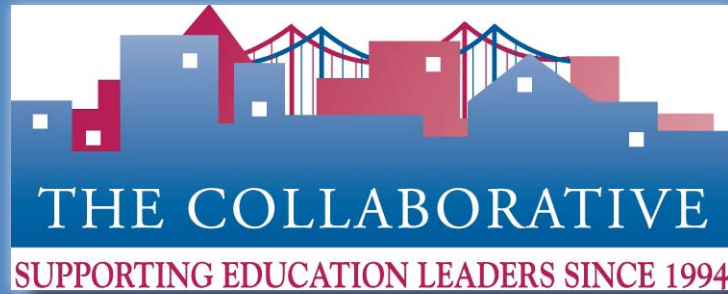


Technical Assistance & Professional Development Services



Urban education leaders are continuously faced with challenges to deliver high quality services to a diverse population of students. The Urban Special Education Leadership Collaborative has resources available to help these leaders and their school districts improve the delivery of services, maintain legal compliance, and improve student outcomes.



Who We Are

The Collaborative is a network of special and general education leaders working together to improve outcomes for students with disabilities and other diverse learners in the nation's urban schools. Its membership represents special education and general education leaders in over 110 urban school districts. We are a part of Education Development Center, Inc., (EDC) an international non-profit organization with more than 335 projects dedicated to enhancing learning, promoting health, and fostering a deeper understanding of the world. Together with our colleagues at EDC as well as education practitioners and researchers from across the country, we have assisted school districts in their efforts to improve student outcomes, and to narrow achievement and opportunity gaps for students with disabilities, English language learners, and other diverse learners

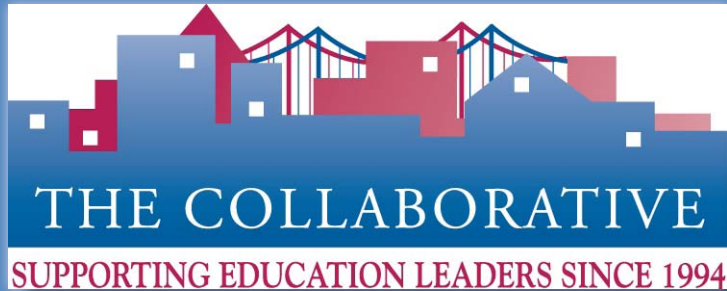
How We Can Help

The Collaborative offers customized Technical Assistance and Professional Development options geared toward improving policy and practice in urban school districts. What we offer is guided by a central tenet: students with and without disabilities benefit from the development of a more integrated, comprehensive system of services.

Why the Collaborative?

The Collaborative's leadership has decades of experience working in and with urban school districts. In addition, through its broad network of affiliations, the Collaborative is able to garner the talents of researchers, urban educators, trainers, and content consultants with expertise in improving educational results and life opportunities for diverse learners.

For a complete list of school districts and education agencies with whom the Collaborative has worked and selected descriptions of services rendered,



Technical Assistance

The Collaborative offers technical assistance that provides in-depth evaluations designed to improve specific program and service areas, or look more broadly at the school district's overall service delivery options. We approach this work as "critical friends," asking probing questions, examining data through multiple lenses, and offering concrete recommendations with a full appreciation of what is already in place and working well. The ultimate goal is for the entire system to be working towards providing a high quality education to all learners. Our expertise can assist school districts in initiating a process of continuous improvement that aims to:

- ensure students are receiving needed and required services
- engage families and communities as effective partners
- improve attendance, school completion, and graduation rates
- deal effectively and productively with discipline issues
- help general and special education work more collaboratively at the district and school levels
- resolve issues of over-identification of minority students in special education
- meet the requirements of IDEA and NCLB
- support students in general education at both the elementary and secondary levels
- improve complaint management and internal compliance monitoring systems
- design school and district level structures and routines to ensure the appropriate and consistent delivery of services

please visit <http://www.urbancollaborative.org/professional.asp> or email Ronald Felton, the Collaborative's Associate Director, at rfelton@edc.org



Professional Development

The Collaborative provides high quality professional development focused on meeting the complex challenges of urban schools. Our extensive network of qualified trainers is committed to aligning content training with the development of professional learning communities that foster collaboration among colleagues.

We offer two types of professional development:

Leadership Institutes

Our leadership institutes focus on topics that have been identified as critical issues in urban schools. These institutes are offered nationally and can also be tailored to meet individual school district or regional needs. Our institute offerings include:

- Multi-tiered Systems of Academic and Behavioral Supports
- Developing Inclusive, High Performing Middle & High Schools
- Enhancing Collaborative Teaching Partnerships between General and Special Education Teachers

Individualized Professional Development

The Collaborative is ready to address the broad range of professional development needs in urban schools. Once we understand the needs of a school and/or school district we work together to develop a professional development plan. The plan may include:

- Needs assessment surveys
- School and classroom observations and consultations
- Small and large group workshops
- Administrator training
- Materials development