

System of Support Evaluation Plan 2024–2025

Prepared by RTI International

Contact: Jay Feldman • jayfeldman@rti.org

California's Statewide System of Support is designed to provide assistance to school districts to meet the needs of the students they serve, with the focus on building capacity within county offices of education (COEs) and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to sustain improvement and address disparities. The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE), in collaboration with the California Department of Education (CDE) and the State Board of Education (SBE), is leading three initiatives within the Statewide System of Support that provide technical assistance and build capacity of COEs and LEAs: Geographic Leads Initiative, Special Education Resource Leads Initiative, and Community Engagement Initiative (CEI). RTI International is the external evaluator for these three initiatives. Further, RTI is examining the overall **coordination**, **collaboration**, and **integration** of the System of Support which includes all Lead Agencies. RTI brings an equity-framed, collaborative learning approach to this evaluation.

Across our evaluation of these initiatives within the System of Support, RTI is working in partnership with CCEE, California Department of Education (CDE), State Board of Education (SBE), lead agency partner organizations, and interest holders to understand:

- 1. Who is accessing support from the System?
- 2. How does the System align to provide support?
- 3. What is the quality of the support?
- 4. What capacity is being built across the System?
- 5. What is the impact of the support?

RTI will collect data from each of these organizations through a series of surveys, focus groups, and student outcome data, where applicable. Table 1 shows the list of planned data collection activities and an approximate timeline.

Data Collection Activity	Focal Audience	Purpose	Timeline
LEA Feedback Survey	LEAs	To understand the quality and type of support received from agencies in the SSOS	Fall
Alignment Survey	All Lead and Collaborative Agencies ¹ ; Statewide Agencies	Provides feedback on how well the Support Agencies are aligning and providing coherent support	Winter
Geographic Lead Feedback Survey and Focus Groups	Staff at COEs	To understand how COEs, LEAs, and stakeholder groups perceive the helpfulness and impact of the work of the Geographic Lead Agencies	Spring
Special Education Resource Lead Feedback Survey and Focus Groups	Staff at COEs and LEAs	To understand how COEs, LEAs, and interest holder groups perceive the helpfulness and impact of the work of the Special Education Resource Leads	Spring
CEI End of Year Survey and Focus Groups	Participants in the Community Engagement Initiative cohorts	To understand how COEs, LEAs, and stakeholder groups perceive the helpfulness and impact of the work of the CEI Lead Agencies	Spring
COE Superintendent Survey	COE Superintendents	To understand superintendent perceptions of the System of Support and the lead agency activities and the impact of those activities	Spring
LEA Access Documentation	All Lead and Collaborative Agencies	Provides information on which LEAs were served by each agency	Spring

¹ Includes Geographic Lead Agencies, Special Education Lead Agencies, Community Engagement Lead Agencies, and all other Collaborative Lead Agencies.

Reporting and Dissemination

RTI will produce an annual report of findings for each initiative and these reports will be posted on the CCEE <u>website</u>. RTI will work with CCEE to determine an annual schedule of presentations and reporting based on annual evaluation activities to all interest holders, including CCEE, CDE, SBE, Geographic Lead Agencies, Special Education Resource Lead Agencies, CEI Lead Agencies, COEs, LEAs and others as designated by CCEE. RTI will also provide each Geographic Lead Agency and Special Education Resource Lead Agency with individualized reports. Dissemination efforts will focus on providing actionable data that illuminates:

- Strengths and barriers within the SSOS;
- · Professional learning experiences and implementation of that learning;
- · Recommendations for improvement; and
- Recommendations about how to sustain the elements with the greatest positive impact and increase their scale.

Questions about this evaluation can be sent to the RTI Project Director, Jay Feldman: jayfeldman@rti.org