



Integration Districts

Frequently Asked Questions

How does participation in the Integration Project differ from participating in CDE's educator evaluation pilot?

Integration Districts will participate in the initial implementation of new performance evaluation systems that satisfy the requirements of state law. As a result, they will increase the amount of information that CDE will use to refine and inform implementation during the early "pilot" period of 2011-2013. However, Integration Districts will also be participating in additional complementary activities intended to support teachers with the goal of implementing new CO Academic Standards and new performance evaluation systems in an integrated way that supports teachers and strong instructional practice.

Will the district have to adopt a specific curriculum?

No. The formative assessment lessons that will be deployed are intended to provide research-based tools aligned to the new content standards that allow teachers to differentiate instruction. They are adaptable to any curriculum or lesson plan.

How does this fit with the work our district is already doing? Is this just a new "initiative"?

No. The Integration Project is designed to support leading districts in executing their existing plans for implementing the Colorado Academic Standards and new educator performance evaluations that align with Senate Bill 10-191. With additional resources and a focus upon teacher supports, the Project seeks to provide learning laboratories that other districts can leverage, and also to inform how CDE supports districts statewide.

Will all teachers and schools be required to participate in the Project?

No. The project has a secondary focus with the exception of the evaluation tools, which will be implemented at all levels. District administration will work with school administrators to determine which schools will participate in the project. School administration will work with their staff to determine which teachers will participate in the project. All levels will participate in implementing the evaluation tools.

Will teachers and administrators be included in making decisions related to the implementation of SB 10-191?

Yes, teachers and administrators will have an opportunity to provide input on the evaluation tools and training guides including the new Measures of Student Growth.

If a teacher agrees to participate in the project, will he or she be paid for services?

Yes, stipends will be paid for teachers and administrators to:

- participate in PLCs in schools, across schools, across districts and across states
- map the curriculum and align the district curriculum to the Colorado Academic Standards
- support collaborative planning sessions.

Additionally, substitute teachers will be paid through the grant, so teachers can attend the professional development sessions for the formative assessment lessons.



Will teachers who participate in the project be required to participate in the pilot of the educator identifier system?

Yes.

Will schools be required to adopt common course codes?

Yes, participating schools will be asked to adopt the state course codes or link their existing codes to those of the state.

Will anyone help teachers and districts with data?

Yes, a Harvard Fellow from The Strategic Data Project will serve all Integration Districts.

As a teacher who participates in the LDC or MDC training, how many tasks or modules will I be required to teach?

By the third year, the expectation is for teachers using the LDC tasks to include four tasks within their curriculum for the year. For staff using the MDC modules, teachers would need to include 10 modules in their yearly curriculum.

What is the length of the project?

Three school years: 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014.