

CENTER FOR ADVANCING  
**HEALTHY**  
COMMUNITIES



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
**CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS**  
Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

# Supports to Advance Emotional Well-Being in Schools Learning Collaborative Cohort

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## SEA Bi-Monthly Call

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December 13, 2023  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET

The *National Initiative to Advance Health Equity in K-12 Education by Preventing Chronic Disease and Promoting Healthy Behaviors* project is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CDC/HHS or the U.S. Government.



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# Welcome

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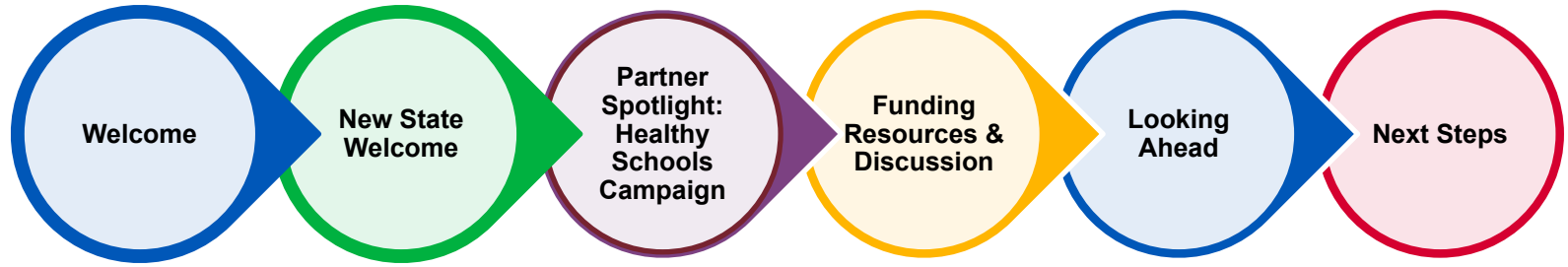
# Call Objectives

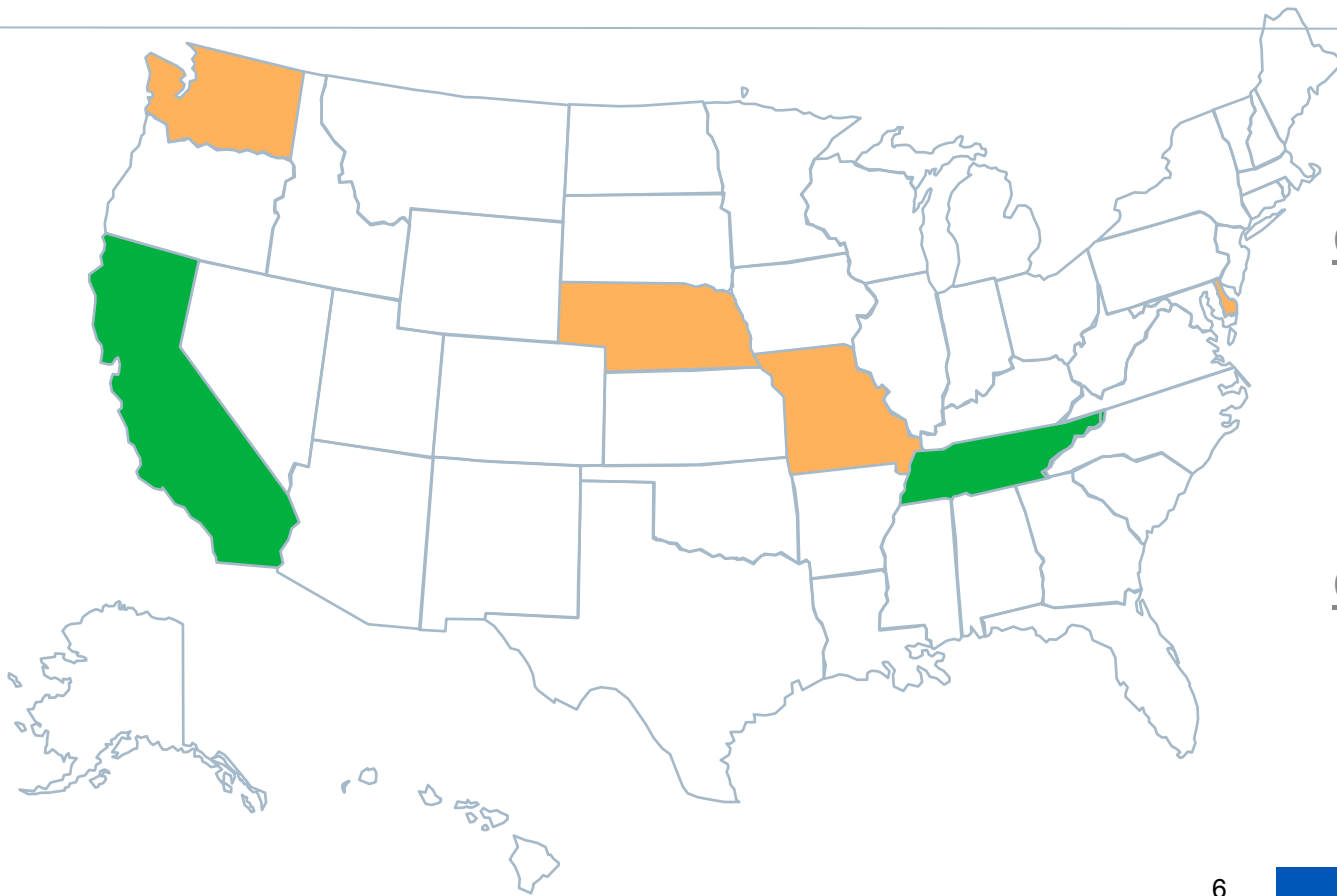
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- Strengthen relationships with other state leaders participating in the learning collaborative by sharing successes, challenges and/or providing resources/support to others
- Identify the role of Medicaid funding and the associated supports for school-based mental health services
- Provide feedback on the next iteration of a training of trainers for state leaders to enhance emotional well-being supports to school districts within their state

# Agenda

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## Cohort 1

- Delaware
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- Washington

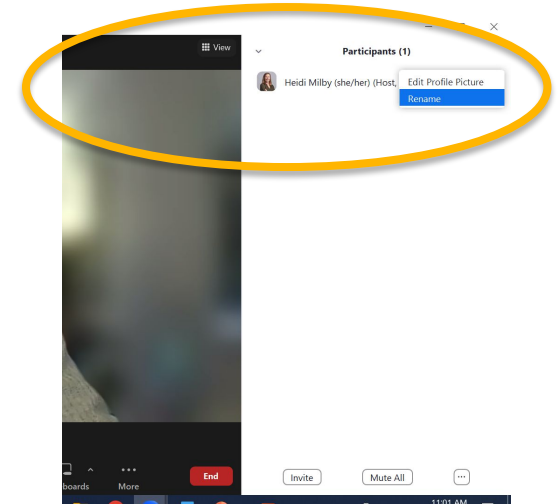
## Cohort 2

- California
- Tennessee

# Zoom Name

- To change your Zoom name, click on:
  - Participants
  - Click on 3 dots
  - Rename

*NAME (preferred pronouns),  
ORGANIZATION*





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# Introductions & New State Welcome

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# Introductions & New State Welcome

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## **New State Welcome**

- California
- Tennessee

**Introduce yourself by sharing the following in the chat:**

- 1) Name
- 2) Role
- 3) Organization
- 4) One thing your state is working on



# Partner Spotlight: Healthy Schools Campaign

# Leveraging School Medicaid to Increase Student Mental and Behavioral Health Services

December 13, 2023

**HEALTHY SCHOOLS**  
CAMPAIGN

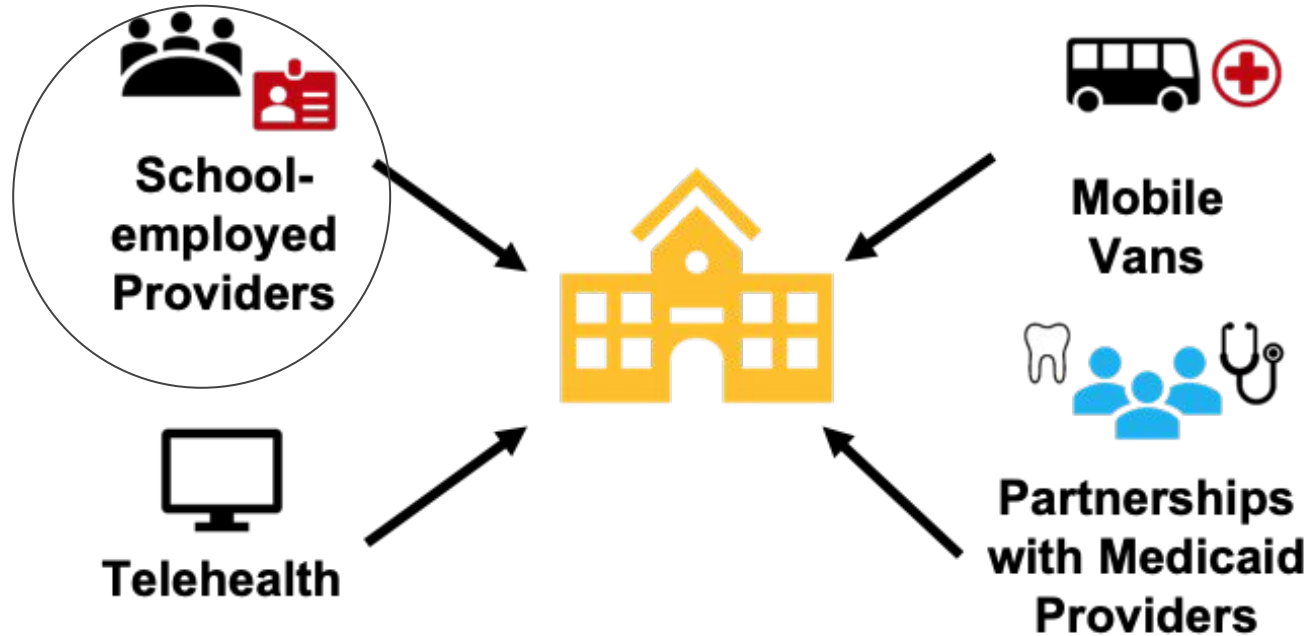
# About Healthy Schools Campaign (HSC)

- HSC works at the intersection of education, health and equity
- HSC advocates for national and local policies and practices that support health and learning
- HSC's priority issues include comprehensive mental and physical health services, green schoolyards and clean air at school

# Comprehensive Physical, Mental and Behavioral Health Services for All Students

- Increase sustainable funding for school-based health services
- Cover more services in schools
- Expand healthcare workforce
- Encourage new thinking on how education and health sectors can work together to improve outcomes in schools

# Models for Delivering Health Services in Schools



# What is Medicaid?

## **Comprehensive health insurance program**

- Medicaid covers 1 in 5 people in the United States
- Almost half of all U.S. children are covered by Medicaid or CHIP
- Covers all medically necessary physical and behavioral health services for children

## **A shared partnership between state and federal government**

- States make decisions about administration, eligibility, services and beneficiary protections, with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) approval
- Changes made through a state plan amendment (SPA)

# Medicaid Services in Schools

- Historically, Medicaid paid for health services included in the Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) of students enrolled in Medicaid
- A 2014 CMS federal policy clarification\* expands coverage to ALL students enrolled in Medicaid

*\*This is sometimes called the “free care” policy reversal*





# Coverage of School Health Services:

**Medicaid can pay for school-based physical, mental and behavioral health services if:**

- The student is enrolled in Medicaid
- Services provided are covered by the state
- Services are delivered by a qualified provider
- States have appropriate billing, documentation and oversight mechanisms in place
- CMS must approve a state plan amendment (SPA)

## Examples

### Eligible School Health Services

- Physician Services
- Nursing Services
- Psychology
- Counseling
- Social Work Services
- Vision Services
- Audiology Services
- Speech Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy

### Eligible School Health Providers

- Nurse practitioner
- Registered nurse
- Licensed practical nurse
- Health technician
- Certified school psychologist
- Credentialed school counselor
- Credentialed school social worker
- Licensed marriage and family therapist
- Speech language pathologist
- Occupational therapist

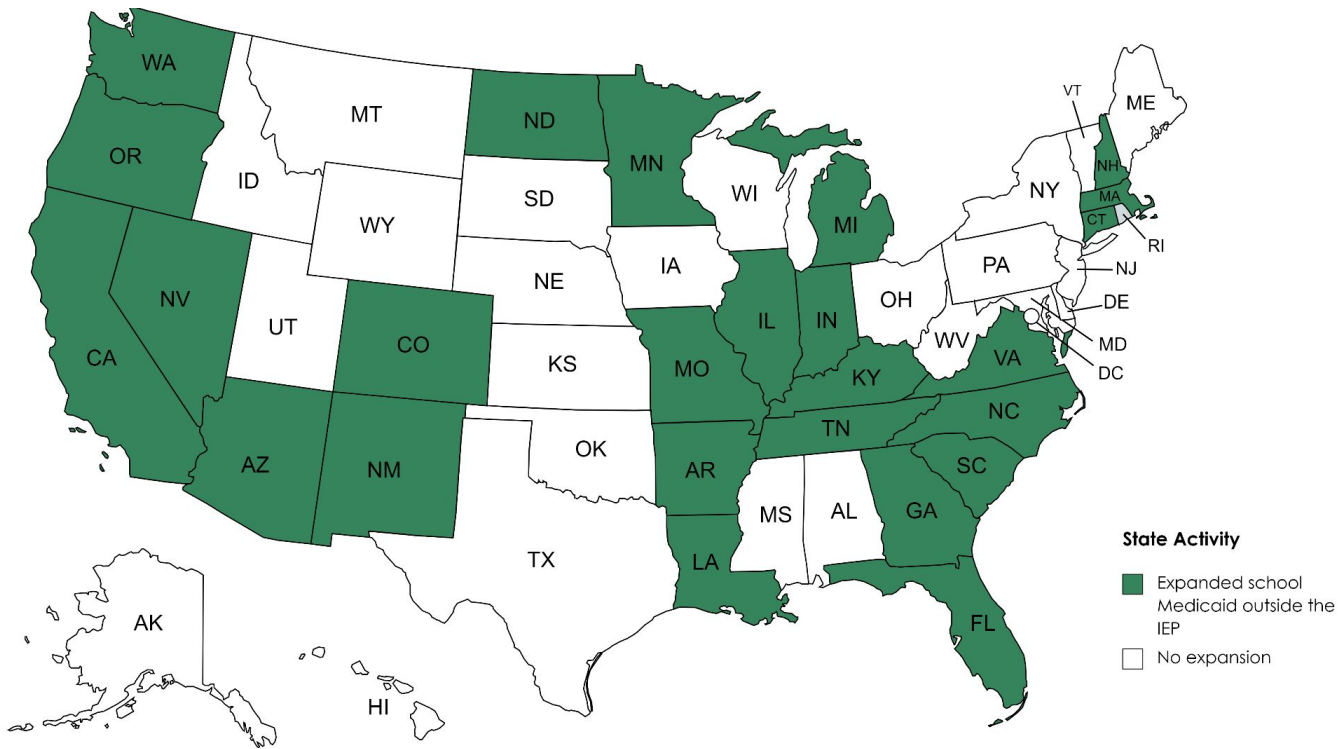
## Examples of Eligible School Mental Health Services

- Psychological assessments
- Psychosocial assessments
- Individual psychology and counseling
- Group psychology and counseling
- Medication administration
- Peer support services
- Case management

## Examples of Eligible School Mental Health Providers

- Licensed psychologist
- Certified school psychologist
- Licensed counselor
- Credentialed school counselor
- Licensed social worker
- Credentialed school social worker
- Licensed marriage and family therapist
- Behavior health analysts
- Registered nurse

# Expansion of School-Based Medicaid Programs



# HEALTHY SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

# Spotlight on Michigan and Colorado

- **Michigan** passed state legislation in December 2018, received SPA (State Plan Amendment) approval from CMS in August 2019
- Expands coverage to all Medicaid enrolled students, not just those with IEP
- Added behavioral health analysts, school social workers and school psychologists as Medicaid eligible providers
- At least \$20 million in new federal funding, over \$10 million just for services delivered by school psychologists

- **Colorado** began by examining the impact of adding additional Medicaid-eligible providers
- Estimated an increase of around \$12 million, a 30% increase over the current program, with the inclusion of additional school behavioral providers
- Billing for school psychologists went into effect in October 2022

# Federal Investments in School Medicaid

- COVID, mental health crisis elevated role of health services in school
- One-time investments through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)
- Bipartisan Safer Communities Act included key Medicaid provisions
- Medicaid “unwinding,” i.e. end to public health emergency freeze on disenrollment

# School Medicaid and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act

- Updated Medicaid Administrative and Direct Services Claiming Guides (Released May 2023)
- Technical Assistance Center from CMS (Launched June 2023)
- \$50 million in grants to states (Anticipated early 2024)

# The New Opportunity for School Mental and Behavioral Health

- The new guidance opens the door for advancement and innovation in school Medicaid
- Flexibility in how to design programs and new state options to reduce administrative burden
- The Administration is actively working with states considering expanding school-based Medicaid—and approving SPAs

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

**Delivering Services in School-Based Settings: A Comprehensive Guide to Medicaid Services and Administrative Claiming**

2023



# CMS Goals for School Medicaid in the New Guidance

- Expand school Medicaid to all students, so reimbursement is available to all students, not just those with IEPs
- Cover all medically-necessary services
- Cover a wide array of healthcare providers
- Encourage SEA, LEA, State Medicaid coordination and cooperation

# Status of School Medicaid: How (and How Many) States Have Taken Action

- 25 states have expanded or partially expanded
- Not all expansions look the same
- Every state has an opportunity to expand services, coverage and reimbursement



# Moving School Mental and Behavioral Health Services Forward

- Maximize Medicaid in schools and ensure reimbursement funds are reinvested in school health services
- Expand statewide coordination and collaboration across State Medicaid, Education, school districts and other stakeholders
- State have the opportunity to
  - Cover more students
  - Cover more mental and behavioral health services and providers
  - Ensure wider school district participation



School Medicaid Expansion

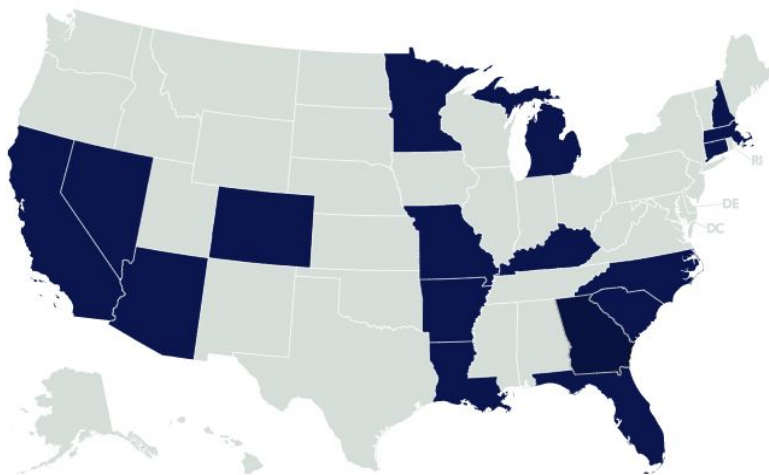
School Health Providers

Promising Practices

States That Expanded  
Medicaid Coverage In Schools

States In the Process Of  
Expanding Medicaid Coverage  
In Schools

States Not Yet Taking Action



### Georgia

Georgia expanded its school Medicaid program in June 2021 to include school nursing services delivered to all Medicaid-enrolled students. View: [State Plan Amendment](#)

[healthystudentspromisingfutures.org/map](https://healthystudentspromisingfutures.org/map)

HEALTHY SCHOOLS  
CAMPAIGN

# Resources

- **NEW!** [Status of School Medicaid Expansion](#)
- **NEW!** [School Medicaid Guidance: What Advocates and State Policymakers Need to Know](#)
- [A Guide to Expanding Medicaid-Funded School Health Services](#)
- **And more:** [\*\*healthystudentspromisingfutures.org/resources\*\*](https://healthystudentspromisingfutures.org/resources)

# Contact

*For questions or information about working with Healthy Schools Campaign:*

**Jessie Mandle**

National Program Director

[Jessie@healthyschoolscampaign.org](mailto:Jessie@healthyschoolscampaign.org)

# Thank you

**HEALTHY SCHOOLS**  
CAMPAIGN







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# Funding Resources & Discussion

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# Funding Resources



## Funding Sustainable School-Based Mental Health Services

Effective School Solutions



## Grants Finder Tool

School Safety.gov

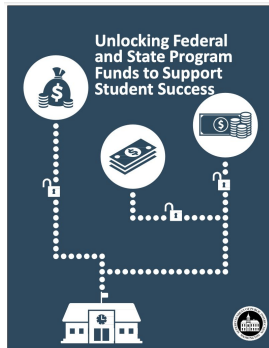


## Policy Brief: State Funding for Student Mental Health

Effective School Solutions

# Funding Resources

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## Unlocking Federal and State Program Funds to Support Student Success

OSPI Washington

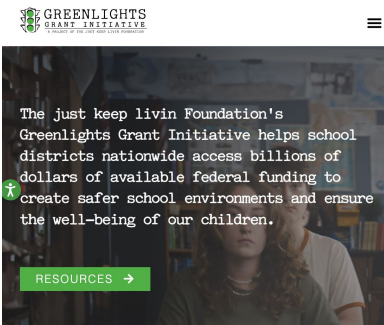
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## School-Based Mental Health Services Grants

The National Education Association strongly believes that mental health services are a necessity in school buildings to meet the needs of all students. Below is a summary of federal grant programs that support efforts to increase school-based mental health services and programs.

## School-Based Mental Health Services Grants

National Education Association



## Green Light Grants

Green Light Grants Initiative

# Funding Resources

## JOIN US: 4TH QUARTER MULTI STATE COLLABORATIVE MEETING

From GLS to Project AWARE, get ready to apply for 2024 grant funds to improve K-12 school behavioral health, including suicide prevention.

**Speakers:** Johari Eligan, MEd, *left*,  
Program Lead, SAMHSA GLS  
State/Tribal project



Dana Walburn, LCSW, *right*, formerly  
with the Nevada Dept. of Education &  
Project AWARE grantee; now Team  
mdlogix

 **Thursday, Dec. 14**

 **1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Eastern**

EMAIL [MARJORIEM@MDLOGIX.COM](mailto:marjoriem@mdlogix.com) TO  
RSVP & FOR ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

## TOPIC: Funding for School Behavioral & Mental Health



*Let's Bring our Students  
more Joy*

**bhworks**  
Mental Health Software for Schools  
**mdlogix.com**

## Upcoming Webinar: Funding for Behavioral & Mental Health

Thursday, December 14th, 2023

1:00 - 2:00pm ET

Email [marjoriem@mdlogix.com](mailto:marjoriem@mdlogix.com) to RSVP  
& for Zoom details



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# Looking Ahead

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# 23-24 SEA Bi-Monthly Calls

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Wednesday, March 6, 2024

12-1PM ET

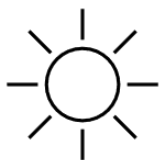
[Zoom Registration Link](#)



Wednesday, April 17, 2024

12-1PM ET

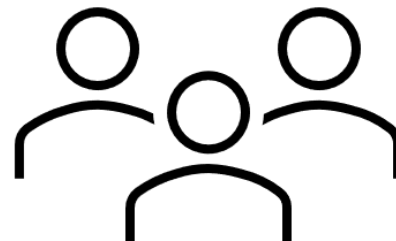
[Zoom Registration Link](#)



Wednesday, June 12, 2024\*

12-1PM ET

[Zoom Registration Link](#)



\*Note: Change from the original date of June 19 due to Juneteenth holiday.



# Training of Trainers (ToT) Model

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We would love your feedback:

- Hours of training (too little, too much)
- Depth of training (are these subtopics and objectives useful in addressing the needs of your LEAs?)
- Format
- What is missing?

**In follow up, we will share our conceptual framework for comment and feedback.**



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# Next Steps

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Please take a few minutes to complete a  
brief evaluation for this call:

[https://nacdd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6WpnBp7DKUc21zo](https://nacdd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WpnBp7DKUc21zo)



# NACDD Contacts

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