The West Comprehensive Center at WestEd (WCC) provides support and assistance on key education initiatives to state education agencies in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah.

The WCC is part of a federally-funded network of 22 technical assistance centers made up of 15 regional centers serving individual or clusters of states and seven content centers providing expertise and services in specific, high-priority areas. Working with the content centers, the WCC collaborates closely with SEAs in the West region to:

- Strengthen SEA organizational capacity to implement, support, scale up and sustain statewide initiatives;
- Build SEA leadership capacity to lead and support their LEAs and schools in improving student outcomes.

The WCC activities include convening regional and state communities of practice; providing expertise, onsite consultation and guidance; and providing current and emergent research, evidence-based practices and resources in eight priority areas.

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**PRIORITY AREA 1**
Standards and Assessment
Implementing college- and career-ready standards and next generation aligned assessments

**PRIORITY AREA 2**
Highly Effective Teachers and Leaders
Identifying, recruiting, developing, and retaining highly effective teachers and leaders

**PRIORITY AREA 3**
District and School Improvement
Turning around the lowest-performing schools

**PRIORITY AREA 4**
Early Learning
Ensuring the school readiness of preschool-age children and their successful transition to kindergarten

**PRIORITY AREA 5**
College and Career Readiness
Building rigorous instructional pathways that help all secondary students make successful transitions to college and careers

**PRIORITY AREA 6**
Innovations in Teaching and Learning
Identifying and scaling up innovative approaches to teaching and learning that significantly improve student outcomes

**PRIORITY AREA 7**
Data Use
Using data-based decision-making to improve instructional practices, policies, and student outcomes

**PRIORITY AREA 8**
Organizational Management
Strengthening systems and management to enhance productivity
The WCC is one of five centers in the network that has been awarded additional funds to assist state departments of education in addressing the needs of American Indian students. Working with its Indian Education Advisory members from the three states, the WCC has identified regional needs and goals which include preserving native language, history and culture; increasing access to effective teachers and leaders; and improving outcomes in low-performing schools with significant numbers of Indian students.

In carrying out its work, the West Comprehensive Center profits from the experience and expertise of its parent organization, WestEd, which has operated comprehensive centers for many years. A nonprofit, nonpartisan research, development and service agency, WestEd works at all levels, from local to international, to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning and development for children, youth and adults. Its staff of more than 650 represents deep knowledge in a broad range of education- and human development-related content and process areas as well as research methodology and policy analysis, all of which is available to the West Comprehensive Center in its work with states. More information about WestEd is available at www.WestEd.org.