Resources and Tools

New Infographic: COVID-19 Challenges on the Road to Equitable Access to Effective Teachers

The road ahead for the teaching force during COVID-19 will be bumpy. Forecasted and potential workforce trends may further exacerbate the lack of access to effective teachers in underserved communities. The challenges of 2020—COVID-19, continued systemic inequities, climate change—will not reduce the number of students who need great teachers. Explore this infographic to learn more.

⭐	**Early Childhood and Early Care**
◻	**English Learners**
▣	**Equity and Access**
△	**Health and Human Services**
✖	**Postsecondary Education**
⬤	**Remote Learning**
⬡	**Special Education**
✳	**Teachers and Leaders**
◆	**The Well-Being of the School Community**
⬠	**Workforce**

New Three Strategies to Help States Elevate Educational Equity

Through AIR's work with eight states as part of the U.S. Department of Education's Comprehensive Centers program, we are learning more about which strategies are showing promise. Read three examples of how states, in partnership with AIR, are using these strategies to increase equity in three critical areas of education.

New A Quick Word with Jill Young on the Readiness Projects

The Readiness Projects—a partnership of the Forum for Youth Investment, the National Urban League, and AIR—advances work informed by science and grounded in practice. Jill Young, senior researcher at AIR, discusses how the Readiness Projects can support equitable opportunities for youth.

Equipping and Sustaining Equity-Oriented School Leaders for Diverse Contexts: Tools and Takeaways

School contexts are increasingly complex. School leaders must design programming to address the needs of their diverse students. This session is framed around the question, how do we prepare school leaders to lead schools towards equitable outcomes for all learners?

Addressing Inequities in Education: Considerations for Black Children and Youth in the Era of COVID-19

Through inequitable policies and practices, Black Americans are forced into conditions that elevate their risk for COVID-19, and consequently, place Black children at the epicenter of loss in multiple domains of life. This brief shows how the pandemic has affected Black children and what researchers recommend to increase equitable access in these areas.

Advancing Quality Teaching for All Schools: Examining the Impact of COVID-19 on the Teaching Workforce

This paper (prepared by the team at the GTL Center) is intended for SEAs as they consider the short-term and long-term implications that COVID-19 will have on the educator workforce. It includes key trends in the teacher workforce and consider potential impacts on the teaching profession. Following these trends and considerations, it provides guiding principles for addressing changes in the teaching workforce and discusses how SEA teams can navigate new funding streams to address impacts to the profession.

[8 Resources for Responding to COVID-19](#)
The Region 9 Comprehensive Center, operated by the American Institutes for Research (AIR) and serving Illinois and Iowa, has compiled the following COVID-19 resources from the federal network of support.

[Strategies for Recruiting a Diverse Teacher Workforce](#)
This brief highlights research-based strategies for recruiting a diverse teacher workforce that mirrors the student population.

[What About Your School? Building Trust and Well-Being Through Trauma-Informed Communities](#)
This webinar will explore how district and school leaders can better prepare themselves for providing trauma-informed leadership to their communities. The Center on Great Teachers and Leaders offers a framework and strategies for building optimal school communities and conditions that focus on equity, safety, relationships, educator mindset, and emotional well-being and regulation.

[School Boards and Educational Equity: Bridging Research, Policy, and Practice (Virtual)](#)
This training session for school board members and district superintendents raises awareness about opportunity and achievement gaps experienced by Wisconsin's Black students and helps identify resources and potential strategies for increasing educational opportunities for students.

[Increasing Equity in Online and Blended Learning](#)
This 2020 online course developed for CALPRO addresses education equity, the culture competence continuum, technology and bias and what we can do.

Policy and Program Resources

[Grading Policy in the Time of COVID-19: Considerations and Implications for Equity](#)
The COVID-19 pandemic serves as a reminder that achieving equity for all students has always been a challenge; differential access to learning threatens to exacerbate existing disparities among students, schools, and districts. This brief explores some of the policy options that California districts and other states have pursued, as well as considerations and trade-offs related to equity.

[Federal Guidance on Protecting Student Rights](#)
As school closures continue, the Region 1 Comprehensive Center (operated by AIR and serving Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont) gathered key information and resources from the U.S. Department of Education on protecting students while addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Creating READIness: Closing Achievement Gaps by Designing School Improvement Programs to Succeed in Underserved Schools](#)
To address the needs of underserved schools, AIR created the READI framework. Instead of viewing readiness as a mechanism for sorting schools out of programs, the framework helps states and districts flip their focus and define readiness by assessing how well the improvement program targets the specific needs of underserved schools.

[California's Early Learning and Care Providers: Essential Workers Who Need Support](#)
The research brief shares results from focus groups conducted in May 2020 with early learning providers about their needs and experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. This research shows that the health crisis has taken a significant toll on early learning providers and that they continue to face challenges supporting young children, especially dual language learners. It also underscores the reality that early learning programs need more resources to continue.

[COVID-19 and the Squeeze on State Education Budgets: Equity Implications for New York State](#)
AIR examined New York's post–COVID-19 Enacted Budget and compared it to the Executive Budget, released in January, to understand the effect of COVID-19 on state aid received by districts, with a focus on how differences between the two budgets related to district poverty levels.

Webinars to Advance Health Equity

IMPAQ (a wholly owned subsidiary of AIR) launched a new webinar series to provide action-oriented ideas and solutions for addressing long-standing health equity challenges exacerbated during the current COVID-19 crisis. These one-hour conversations were moderated by IMPAQ President Dr. Adaeze Enekwechi and feature nationally recognized subject matter experts from a variety of sectors.

- [Health Equity in the Time of COVID-19: Fixing Broken Systems to Serve Communities of Color](#)

- [Bridging the Digital Divide: Solutions for Telehealth Access & Equity](#)

[IMPAQ Launches COVID-19 Clinical Trials Tracker to Increase Access to the Latest Data on Potential Treatments](#)
IMPAQ Health researchers developed a publicly available dashboard for exploring the latest updates in the vast COVID-19 clinical trials landscape. Led by pharmacists Drs. Sanchari Ghosh and Zippora Kiptanui, the team compiled publicly available clinical trials data into an easy-to-use Tableau dashboard to help researchers, doctors, and others sort through and analyze the growing list of more than 2,500 COVID-19 clinical trials.

- [Clinical Trials Data Tracking Dashboard](#)

- [COVID-19 Clinical Trials Landscape Infographic](#)

Blogs

[Leaders Must Design COVID-19 Recovery Programs to be 'READI' for the Highest Need Schools](#)
The new focus on equity requires leaders to look closely at the initiatives and programs they are implementing. Education leaders can use the READI framework to think through resource deficiencies, educator support, accountability requirements, disparities in working conditions, and implementation capacity of staff.

[IMPAQ COVID-19 Blog Series](#)
IMPAQ experts offer timely updates and informed insights into the intersection of COVID-19 and pressing policy issues. Topics explored in these comprehensive articles include [rising unemployment and ACA health insurance coverage](#), [COVID-19 and the coming mental health emergency](#), and [telehealth expansion and equity](#).