



Research Learning Community Highlights

Strengthening Learning Communities and Looking Forward

Researchers explored the array of current topics in tutoring research with a focus on improving tutoring program effectiveness and solidifying the long-term future of programs across the country. Conference researchers also renewed professional and collaborative relationships and used their time together to connect organizations and researchers interested in similar research questions.

Sharing Knowledge and Planning for Future Inquiries

To best serve districts and providers looking to implement data-informed program features, researchers highlighted the importance of improving guidance around establishing data collection and storage and transfer systems, and preparing stakeholders to best use data for program improvement efforts. Researchers also returned to pertinent issues they are working to understand, such as:

- Program implementation and approaches to overcoming common barriers
- The effectiveness of different tutoring approaches on student outcomes such as academic growth and social emotional competency
- The benefits of program features such as tutor-student race matching and computer-assisted curriculum

Additionally, members of the research learning community discussed priorities for future research on:

- The effectiveness of strategies to embed programs into everyday K-12 education practices
- The potential for technology and artificial intelligence to inform instruction, collect data, and serve more students affordably
- Natural language processing (NLP) and its potential to improve the quality of observational data from tutoring sessions

A summary of the ongoing work of participants can be found [here](#).

Applying Research to Sustain Programs and Reach More Students

The research group also discussed strategies for sustaining high-impact tutoring and ensuring that students have long-term access to this relationship-based individualized instruction. Major topics discussed by the group were planning for the end of ESSER funding and sharing new ways to make high-impact tutoring affordable and keep program costs low without sacrificing program quality. Discussions also highlighted the need for programs across the country to maintain and expand on-going sources for the supply of high-quality tutors, such as

through higher education partnerships, and strengthen tutor retention so that crucial tutoring features like consistent student-tutor relationships can be sustained throughout the school year. To ensure long-term sustainability, researchers identified the importance of securing district, community, and state-level support for high-impact tutoring, sharing case studies as guidance for promising implementation practices, and promoting the intervention to relevant stakeholders and funders.