



Building Vermont's Universal PreK Research Partnership



Child Care & Early Education Policy Research Consortium Meeting
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Partnership Description

Vermont Universal PreK Research Partnership

- **Goal:** Address research needs and inform policy and practice decisions during the implementation of Vermont's universal prekindergarten model (Act 166)
- **Members:**
 - Vermont Agency of Education: Deputy Secretary, Early Learning Programs Lead, Director of Analysis and Data Management, UPK Program Manager, & UVM Doctoral Fellow
 - Vermont Agency of Health and Human Services: Child Development Division (CDD) Deputy Director, & CDD Policy Director



Nature of the Partnership

- Funded and overseen by IES as one of ten partnerships led by the REL Northeast and Islands.
- The goal of the RELs is to conduct research and analytic technical assistance for state and local education agencies.
- Developed a [research agenda setting process](#) and published facilitator guides for building an agenda that is responsive to partners' needs and capacity.





Nature of the Partnership

- Research Study on Trends in Child Enrollment in UPK
 - Analysis of state administrative data
 - Finalizing report for publication and dissemination
- Research Study on Characteristics of Prequalified UPK Programs
 - Supporting survey development
 - Analysis of state administrative data
 - Planning phase





Barriers & Facilitators

- Facilitating cross-agency collaboration
 - Sustainability through membership changes
 - Working closely with data staff
 - Knowing the state policy context
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- Success Story: Dissemination to the Vermont Legislature





Institutional Support & Sustainability

- Five year partnership supported through REL
- Beginning to explore ways to sustain the partnership
 - Researcher-practitioner partnership grants
 - Conference presentations
 - Evaluation contracts



Contact

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Here is our newsletter sign-up: <http://eepurl.com/ddjYgn>

Here is our twitter page: https://twitter.com/REL_NEI

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