

# TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING IS ESSENTIAL TO STUDENT SUCCESS

## What Is Professional Learning?

Professional learning – also known as professional development, staff development or continuing education – is the investment in additional, ongoing education and training for teachers to increase their effectiveness and improve learning for their students.

## Why Do Educators Need Additional Training?

It takes years for new educators to develop the skills needed to become experts in their roles. And veteran educators need to stay current with new practices. CORE professional learning offers educators at all stages of their careers the opportunity to refresh and refine their skills – and become even better at their craft.

## What Are the Benefits of Professional Learning?

The more knowledgeable a teacher is, the more effective their teaching becomes. Students will learn more and develop more skills as a result of a highly qualified teacher who is constantly learning new techniques and instructional practices. CORE professional learning provides opportunities for teachers to increase their knowledge and develop a culture of learning.

## How Much Should My School Invest in Professional Learning?

Every district and school has unique needs based on their context and goals but on average, districts spend 1%–3% of their budget on professional learning.\* ESSER funds can be used to invest in CORE services to accelerate learning recovery and create a foundation for long-term math and ELA success.

## What Makes Professional Learning Effective?

Professional learning should build educators' instructional knowledge, provide guidance on the use of evidence-based curricula, and include job-embedded coaching to ensure what educators learn is successfully put into practice. CORE's approach to professional learning includes these three components.

## What Does Professional Learning Look Like?

Traditionally, professional learning is a formal learning model that includes workshops, seminars, conferences, and college courses. CORE offers a more holistic approach to professional learning that includes job-embedded learning opportunities such as peer study groups, colleague observation, mentoring, coaching, staff or team meetings (i.e., PLCs), and more.

## THE PAYOFF Improved Student Outcomes

A third-party research firm conducted three studies focused on reading performance in Pajaro Valley Unified School District (CA). Students in classrooms where teachers participated in CORE professional learning achieved greater growth in their reading skills.

Read the results at  
[corelearn.com/success-stories](http://corelearn.com/success-stories)

Learn more about CORE's proven approach to professional learning and how we can support excellent teaching in your district.

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\*Miles, K. H., Odden, A., Fermanich, M., & Archibald, S. (2004). Inside the black box of school district spending on professional development: Lessons from comparing five urban districts. *Journal of Education Finance*, 30(1), 1-26.