IES Institute of Education Sciences

SLDS Technical Assistance for All States and Territories

SLDS Support Goes Beyond Grants

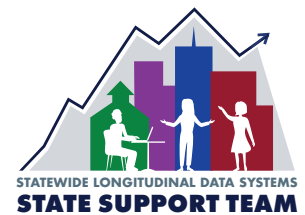**Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Grant Program**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Program of the National Center for Education Statistics at IES

Need help with your SLDS? You don't need to be a grantee of the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Grant Program to access its many services and resources. In addition to funding the development and use of SLDSs, the SLDS program offers a wide range of support to help states and territories succeed in their SLDS efforts and sustain the systems over time.

What Is the State Support Team?

The **State Support Team (SST)** is a key component of the SLDS program's strategy to help ensure that states and territories are successful in their data efforts. The SST, a group of experienced data systems experts, provide a range of technical assistance in the development, management, and use of SLDSs. Read the **SST Bios** at *https://slds.ed.gov/#program/about-the-sst* to learn more. SST support is free and available to all states and territories.

STATEWIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEMS
STATE SUPPORT TEAM

Types of Assistance Available

Common areas of SST assistance include, but are not limited to, data governance, stakeholder engagement, project management, sustainability, and data use. The SST also provides assistance in areas such as transparency, collaboration and linkage of data across state and local agencies, vendor management, system design, strategic planning, and implementation of research agendas.

SST assistance is provided in many forms. The types of support provided by the SST are based on state and territory needs and evolve in response to the current challenges in the field. The SST assists via:

Individual Assistance

The SST can provide state- and territory-specific assistance through services such as regular **check-in calls** and **on-site visits**; reviewing project plans and other documents; providing resources, training, and examples; connecting states with their peers who have faced similar challenges; and other support. Each state and territory has a **SST point of contact** who can help identify and respond to your SLDS-related needs.
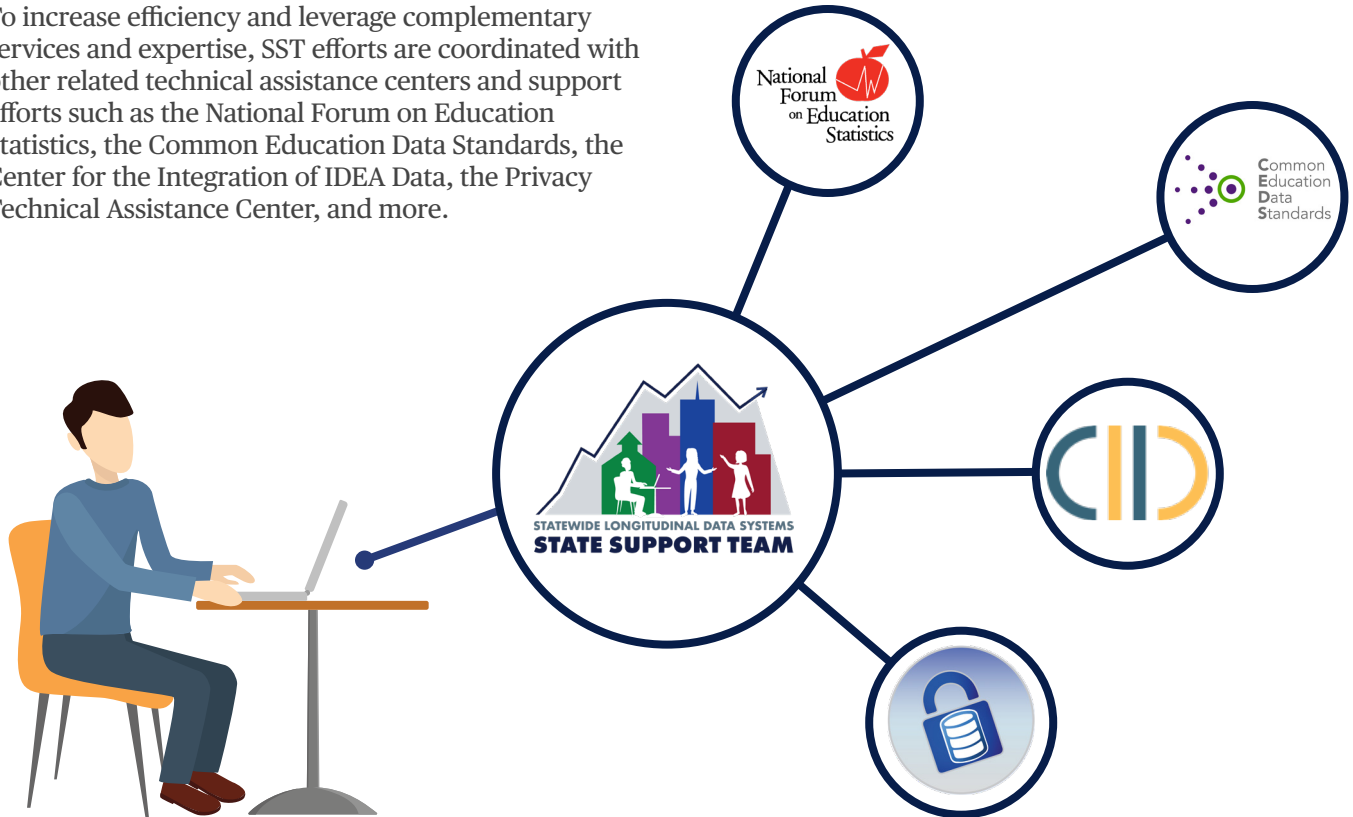
Multistate Assistance

The SLDS program and SST offer a host of multistate supports, including the annual **SLDS Best Practices Conference**, an **online resource sharing repository**, SLDS-created publications, topical working groups, **webinars**, interactive topical **communities of practice**, the **Personnel Exchange Network**, and a listserv. Travel support for a limited number of nongrantees to the conferences and workshops is available.

Need help? Contact the SLDS State Support Team at **support@sst-slds.org**.

Collaboration for Greater Assistance

To increase efficiency and leverage complementary services and expertise, SST efforts are coordinated with other related technical assistance centers and support efforts such as the National Forum on Education Statistics, the Common Education Data Standards, the Center for the Integration of IDEA Data, the Privacy Technical Assistance Center, and more.

Better Decisions Require Better Information

This principle lies at the heart of the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) Grant Program. Through grants and a wide range of services and resources, the SLDS program has helped propel the successful design, development, implementation, expansion, and use of K12 and P-20W+ (early learning through the workforce) longitudinal data systems. These systems increase states' capacity to efficiently and accurately manage, analyze, and use education, social service, workforce, and other statewide data. SLDSs help policymakers, program administrators, educators, and other stakeholders make data-informed decisions to take actions that increase student outcomes and facilitate research to improve policies and service provision.

How to Request Assistance

Get support from the SST now! Each state and territory has an **SST point of contact** who can provide support or identify the SST member best suited to address your particular needs.

Find your state's or territory's SST point of contact, or email **support@ sst-slds.org** for assistance.

Background

Authorized by the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, Title II of the statute that created the Institute of Education Sciences, the SLDS Grant Program has awarded competitive, cooperative agreement grants to states since 2005. Grants extend 3 to 5 years and require grantees to submit annual reports and a final report on the completion of their grant objectives. All 50 states, 5 territories, and the District of Columbia are eligible to apply.

Learn More! Visit the SLDS Grant Program website at **https://nces.ed.gov/programs/SLDS**.