

NDPC-SD Dropout Prevention Intervention Framework (DPIF)

The *DPIF* is a five-phase, systematic process that includes knowledge transfer and utilization of dropout prevention research, proven practices that work, policies and procedures that support school completion, and the implementation of evidence-based practices within a contextual fit. The systematic planning and structure of the *DPIF* emphasizes problem solving and intervention selection based on needs identified through relevant data. This structure frames the need for systemic change in a local context and underscores the need to employ data-based decision making to decrease dropout and improve school completion rates for student with disabilities.

NDPC-SD's framework provides a structured process by which SEA or LEA teams can gain sufficient knowledge to develop, sustain, and expand efforts in data analysis to (1) identify risk and protective factors; (2) identify priority areas for intervention; (3) identify and select evidence-based practices to address needs; and (4) develop and implement effective programs in dropout prevention. Execution of the NDPC-SD framework is supported by a two-tiered training plan. In the first tier, carefully selected state and local teams are provided 4-6 days of intensive training using six tested [modules](#) that reflect current research evidence in dropout prevention. Tier one culminates in the development of evidence based intervention plan. In the second tier, targeted support and guided practice are provided to selected schools to ensure implementation of the improvement plan. The schools identify and implement interventions, evaluate their effectiveness, and establish compatible new initiatives. Continuous evaluation assists schools in examining the efficacy of selected interventions. Through this approach, each site becomes the source of its own core implementation components and improves its policies, practices, procedures, programs, and systems related to school completion. For more information, contact Dr. Sandra Covington Smith at: sandras@clmson.edu.

