



Northwest Regional Comprehensive Center (NWRCC)

Management Plan July 1, 2009–September 10, 2010

Introduction

The Year 5 Management Plan is organized by the same NWRCC goals and objectives that guided work in Year 4. These goals and objectives are listed below.

Goal 1. Provide high quality technical assistance that is useful and relevant for the target audience

- 1.1. Provide events and services that participants deem to be of high quality
- 1.2. Provide events and services that participants deem to be relevant to their work.
- 1.3. Provide events and services that participants deem to be useful to their work
- 1.4. Improve the operational efficiency of the program

Goal 2: Improve the ability of the five State Educational Agencies to achieve the goals and implement the provisions of NCLB applicable to states.

- 2.1. Facilitate cooperation and collaboration among the five states, the U.S. Department of Education, and others that result in coherent reform systems within and across states.

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources

- 3.1. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.



Northwest Regional Comprehensive Center (NWRCC)

Goal 4. Provide access to high-quality, useful information to support states' and districts' efforts to implement NCLB programs and provisions.

- 4.1 Effectively disseminate useful and high-quality information about research-based practices, programs, resources and services that will assist schools and districts to implement NCLB programs and provisions.

The development of this Year 5 Management Plan was also informed by the NWRCC's theory of action which asserts that a state's capacity to implement NCLB will increase if the NWRCC:

- Works proactively with the SEAs in the region
- Encourages both cross-state and intra-state collaboration
- Involves multiple stakeholders representing various roles
- Uses multi-faceted and coordinated strategies
- Employs a tiered delivery system

The work described in the Year 5 Management Plan will be carried out in accordance with our "internal" theory of action—a way of conducting our work. This internal theory of action states that our efforts will be high quality, effective, efficient, and professionally satisfying if we:

- Keep our goals, mission and external theory of action always at the forefront
- Work in teams
- Draw upon the resources of the Comprehensive Center Network and our parent organizations (NWREL and RMC)
- Broker outside resources that can provide needed services
- Strive to continually increase our understanding of the complexities of NCLB
- Conduct and use ongoing evaluations of our work

As with Year 3 and Year 4, the work is organized around three themes and compliance. The themes were established during Year 2 through a planning process that involved a review of formal and informal needs assessment data. Based on these needs, possible themes were brainstormed around which the NWRCC work might be organized for the remaining three years. Criteria were established to determine which of the brainstormed themes were most viable.

A theme was considered appropriate if:

- There was evidence of need in multiple states
- It represented a federal priority
- The NWRCC had the capacity to address the theme
- Work in the theme area had the potential for high impact
- It was likely to be applicable for multiple years

The application of these criteria resulted in the identification of three areas of work:

- 1) Statewide systems of support (SSoS)
- 2) Response to Intervention (RTI)
- 3) Improving mathematics instruction in rural schools/districts (Rural Math)



Northwest Regional Comprehensive Center (NWRCC)

In Year 4, the focus of the math-related theme on rural schools and districts was revised to include all schools and districts as a result of feedback and requests from the region's SEAs. Similarly, in Year 5 this theme will be expanded to allow work that not only focuses on mathematics, but includes science and the broader STEM perspective. In addition, Year 5 work will continue to build on the Year 4 work related to LEP standards and assessments that was supported by the supplemental award NWRCC received in addition to its regular funding. Therefore, to provide an internal structure, NWRCC staff will be organized into three theme teams (SSoS, RTI, STEM) and two work groups (Compliance and ELL). It is also anticipated that the NWRCC will continue to offer ARRA-related assistance to SEA staff in Year 5. This will likely include webinars linking SEA staff in the region with each other and with knowledgeable ED staff, as well as the dissemination of tools and resources developed and identified by the Comprehensive Center Network and others. Other requests for ARRA-related assistance will be evaluated and responded to as budget and staff capacity allow.

In preparing this Year 5 Management Plan for submission, NWRCC staff considered the progress achieved across all three theme areas and work groups, assessed ongoing projects in each of the states, reflected on the Year 4 regional activities' successes and opportunities for improvement, and discussed potential projects with each State Leadership Team. However, with the limits imposed by the Year 5 budget, staff and management determined that only one regional symposium is reasonable in Year 5.

The information on the following pages provides some details on the regional and state-specific projects the NWRCC will carry out in Year 5.

REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

Goal 2: Improve the ability of the five State Educational Agencies to achieve the goals and implement the provisions of NCLB applicable to states.

2.1 Facilitate cooperation and collaboration among the five states, the U.S. Department of Education, and others that result in coherent reform systems within and across states.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
2.1	Convene one regional symposium to enhance SEAs' knowledge of NCLB-related topics.	Post-symposia Web-based resources and materials	A needs assessment, conducted by October 1, 2009 will determine the specific focus.	May 2010	All Staff
2.1	Convene regional Advisory Committee to conduct regional needs assessment to guide current and future work.	Face-to-face meeting	All	April 2009	Kit Peixotto and Seymour Hanfling
2.1	Conduct formative and summative assessments to evaluate progress toward goals and objectives.	Quarterly formative evaluation reviews Annual evaluation report	All	July 2009 October 2009 January 2010 April 2010 July 2010 September 2009	Dave Weaver

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
2.1	Identify SEA staff to attend Content Comprehensive Center and organization-sponsored institutes, conferences, meetings, etc.	SEA staff attending national conferences and meetings	All	July 2009 – July 2010	Kit Peixotto, Seymour Hanfling, State Coordinators, Content Center Liaisons
2.1	Convene quarterly meetings (face-to-face or electronically) with SEA Leadership Teams to review progress on state projects and foster on-going communication	Quarterly meetings	All	July 2009 October 2009 January 2010 April 2010 July 2010	Kit Peixotto and State Coordinators
2.1	Convene electronic cross-state groups on NWRCC themes, ELL, Compliance and ARRA work areas to facilitate cross-state communication and information sharing	Regularly scheduled audio-, video-conferences and/or Webinars	All	July 2009 – August 2010	Seymour Hanfling, Theme Team/Work Group Leads, Diane Peterson

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources.

- 3.1. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.1	Conduct survey of state School Support Teams	Data that describes the practices and training needs of the SST members in each state and the region	SSoS	July 2009 – September 2009	Dave Weaver and SSoS Team

Goal 4: Provide access to high-quality, useful information to support states' and districts' efforts to implement NCLB programs and provisions.

4.1 Effectively disseminate useful and high-quality information about research-based practices, programs, resources and services that will assist schools and districts to implement NCLB programs and provisions.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
4.1	Provide up-to-date information on the NWRCC Web site to help users increase knowledge, access resources, and facilitate their own learning communities	NWRCC Web site Monthly e-newsletters	All	Ongoing	Ira Pollack and Diane Peterson

STATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES – IDAHO

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources.

- 3.1 Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2 Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3 Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4 Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.2 and 3.3	Assist with RTI Implementation and Enhancement Grants	Trained facilitators, processes & tools to guide district teams in implementing RTI. Data from districts to guide IDE in providing targeted professional development and technical assistance to districts.	RTI	July 2009 – June 2010	Melinda Leong & Lynette Thompson Idaho RTI State Leadership Group

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.2 and 3.4	Provide research, content expertise, and support to the Idaho mathematics curriculum specialist and serve on the Mathematics Initiative Task Force.	State mathematics initiative designed and implemented	STEM	July 2009 – September 2010	Claire Gates IDE Mathematics Specialist
3.3 and 3.4	Facilitate CII Self-Assessment process with the IDE Self-Assessment Team	Identification of strengths and weaknesses of the current ID SSoS and a plan for improving it	SSoS	July 2009 – October 2009	Kit Peixotto and Claire Gates CII – Carol Chelemer IDE Self-Assessment Team
3.1 and 3.4	Assist the SDE in planning and implementing the Idaho Migrant Education Comprehensive Needs Assessment	Needs assessment data to inform and improve the state Migrant Education Program	Compliance	July 2009 – January 2010	Claire Gates

STATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES – MONTANA

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources.

- 3.1. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.3 and 3.4	Assist MOPI in the development and implementation of a strategic plan for SSoS, including the development, implementation and evaluation of the school coach program and the Scholastic Review process	School Coach program that will effectively support districts and schools in need of improvement and an evaluative tool to use with schools in improvement status to determine the progress of the school in meeting its goals and targets	SSoS	July 2009 – August 2010	Cathryn Gardner MOPI Assistant Superintendent, Title I Director and School Improvement Specialists

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.4	Assist MOPI RTI Steering Committee in developing fiscal guidance to schools implementing RTI	Process for developing guidance on the use of federal and state funds for RTI	RTI	July 2009 – August 2010	Cathryn Gardner and Robey Clark OPI RTI Steering Committee

STATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES – OREGON

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources.

- 3.1. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.3 and 3.4	Assist ODE in developing a mathematics assessment framework	Mathematics assessment framework, aligned with the new state standards, to guide the development of state mathematics tests.	STEM	July 2009 – June 2010	Linda Griffin & Lisa Lavelle ODE Assessment Director and Mathematics Assessment Specialist

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.2 and 3.4	Assist ODE in developing a model for statewide professional development to support the implementation of new state standards	Plan completed and implemented	STEM	July 2009 – September 2009	STEM Team ODE Mathematics and Science Curriculum Specialists and Professional Development Director
3.2	Assist ODE in developing a state STEM strategic plan	Established plan for the implementation of K-18 standards for STEM subjects	STEM	July 2009 – June 2010	Cathryn Gardner ODE Title II Director, Mathematics and Science Curriculum Specialists
3.2 and 3.3	Assist ODE in improving math content instruction through a coaching model	Implementation of the strategies introduced in summer institute through effective follow up activities	STEM	July 2009 – June 2010	Claire Gates and Lisa Lavelle ODE Title II Director, Mathematics and Science Curriculum Specialists
3.2	Assist ODE in the review and revision of the state's ELL accommodations policy and guidance	Refined ELL accommodations policies and guidance	ELL	July 2009 – March 2010	Lynette Thompson ODE ELL specialists

STATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES – WASHINGTON

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources.

- 3.1. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.4	Assist OSPI in the development of leadership training in implementation	Key personnel in state understand and use the implementation process for projects	SSoS	July 2009 – September 2010	Cathryn Gardner, Rita Hale & Lynette Thompson OSPI School Improvement staff
3.2	Assist OSPI in the review and revision of the state’s ELL accommodations policy and guidance	Refined ELL accommodations policies and guidance	ELL	July 2009 – March 2010	Lynette Thompson OSPI ELL specialists

STATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES – WYOMING

Goal 3: Build the capacity of the State Educational Agencies to assist districts and schools in need of improvement by improving access to high-quality technical assistance services and resources.

- 3.1. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop, maintain, and use valid, reliable, multi-dimensional, and comprehensive data systems to analyze the improvement needs of the schools and districts, and use the findings to inform decisions about how to address needs
- 3.2. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to develop solutions or identify evidence-based strategies to address school and district improvement needs across departments, other state agencies, and technical assistance providers
- 3.3. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to lead improvement efforts by developing and maintaining an integrated and comprehensive system of differentiated assistance for struggling schools and districts that balances monitoring with technical assistance.
- 3.4. Carry out projects that will increase the capacity of the SEA to continuously evaluate and refine its improvement systems and tools, and to take proven systems and tools to scale.

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.3	Assist the WDE in developing and implementing process to identify the intensity of technical assistance, resources, and support needed by districts and schools in need of improvement.	Process implemented, evaluated, and refined	SSoS	July 2009 – July 2010	Rita Hale WDE Technical Assistance Project Team

Objective	TA Activity/Task	Milestone/Outcome	Theme	Dates	Staff Responsible
3.1	Assist WDE in developing an electronic survey to collect information on public preschools using Title I funds	Needs assessment data collected and analyzed	Compliance	July 2009 – July 2010	Rita Hale & Dave Weaver WDE Title I staff
3.1	Assist WDE in developing an on-line survey to collect data on instructional practices in grades K-6	Statewide data about the degree to which essential elements and instructional practices are being used in elementary and middle schools	RTI	July 2009 – June 2010	Rita Hale & Dave Weaver WDE RTI Project Team
3.3 and 3.4	Assist Wyoming System of Instructional Support (WySIS) Leadership Team in the development of WySIS training modules and coaches training components	Implementation of Wyoming's RTI through training, coaching, and evaluation	RTI	July 2009 – August 2010	Rita Hale WDE RTI Project Team and Special Education staff