



The Bridge Project: Central Office Systems

About the Bridge Project

The Bridge Project is a comprehensive professional learning program for Illinois central office teams offered at no cost to school districts by the Illinois ROE Lead Hubs and WestEd with funding from the U.S. Department of Education. The Central Office Systems component of the Bridge Project works with superintendents and their teams to improve principal workforce diversity and retention.

Why Participate?

Superintendents and their leadership teams play a powerful role in recruiting, developing, and retaining the principals in their districts. By participating in the Bridge Project, superintendents and key team members will improve policies, programs, and practices to

- * attract and retain the next generation of women principals and principals of color; and
- * network with other central office teams to grow and retain excellent school principals.

How to Join

To learn more about the central office program, complete the interest form at tinyurl.com/BridgeCentralOfficeInterest or email thebridgeproject@wested.org.

Program Structure

As part of the Bridge Project program, participating superintendents and their teams will engage in tailored, 90-minute coaching by experienced leadership coaches and former central office administrators. Superintendents and their team members will take a self-assessment allowing them to reflect on the systems that impact principal hiring, principal retention, and principal effectiveness.

Participants will also engage in seven professional development sessions focused on systems to advance principal hiring, principal retention, and principal effectiveness through an equity lens. These include:

- * **Teaching and Learning Focus**
- * **Selection and Hiring**
- * **Leadership Pathways**
- * **Principal Induction**
- * **Marketing***
- * **Supervision and Evaluation**
- * **Operational Excellence**

** Note. This system is focused on sharing pertinent information regarding your district that will encourage others to learn more.*

Who Can Participate?

Superintendents and key team members interested in improving their district's principal pipeline while also supporting the career growth of women and/or educators of color in their districts who aspire to become principals.

When Does the Program Take Place?

The program will run from **June 2023 through June 2024**.

The Bridge Project is a professional development program designed to support the career growth of aspiring principals who identify as women and/or principals of color in Illinois. It is operated jointly by Illinois Lead Hubs, a network of the Illinois Regional Offices of Education, and WestEd, a nonpartisan research, development, and service agency. The Bridge Project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education under the federal Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) program.

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