



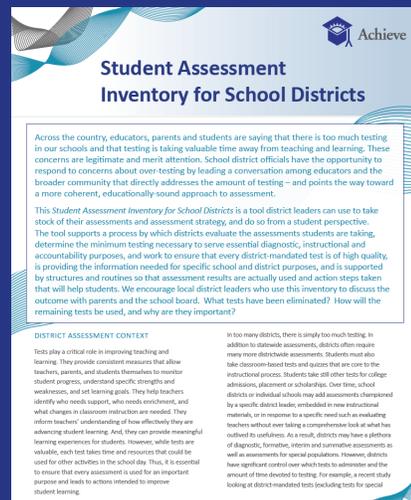
December 2016

Apply to join Achieve's New Assessment Inventory National Network

Achieve is launching a Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts National Network, which will support up to 12 school districts across the country to use the Student Assessment Inventory for School Districts to take stock of their assessment system, streamline the number of assessments, and ensure all remaining assessments are of high quality and aligned to state learning standards.

Achieve will provide subgrants of between \$5,000 and \$7,000 to districts to complete the assessment inventory. In addition, district and school board leaders from those districts will attend a cross-district convening to learn from other districts that have used the assessment inventory and to finalize inventory planning, as well as receive ongoing support from Achieve staff. Districts interested in applying to join the National Network should read the Call to Action for details about the application process. Applications are due December 16, 2016.

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Diplomas that Matter: Ensuring Equity of Opportunity for Students with Disabilities

A [new report](#) from Achieve and the National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) report analyzes the diplomas available to students with disabilities in each state for the graduating class of 2015. Although an estimated 85 to 90 percent of students with disabilities can, with the proper instruction, supports, and accommodations, meet the same graduation standards as all other students, the national graduation rate for students with disabilities has risen from 56.9 percent in 2006 only to 66.3 percent in 2014. In addition to these low graduation rates, questions persist as to whether students with disabilities are being given access to a rigorous course of study that will prepare them for college and career. States do a disservice to students with disabilities when they are not given the opportunity to earn a regular diploma with adequate supports or when they are held to lower expectations.



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Show Me the Data: New Research from the Data Quality Campaign

The Data Quality Campaign (DQC) recently released the results of an effort to discover what information could be easily found on state report cards from all 50 states and DC, how it was displayed, and whether it was accessible and understandable to a broad public audience. From a simple internet search, DQC explored whether statewide information can be easily found by parents, educators, and members of the community - not whether information exists anywhere, buried under many pages of a website. Findings show that while all states create annual aggregate report cards for the public with important data about how their students statewide are doing, these reports are often difficult to find and understand. As a result, people can't find information they need, and there is considerable room for improvement



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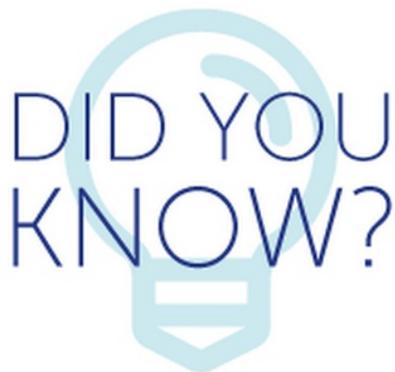
Milestones for College Success: The To&Through Project

Research tells us that a college degree is still the most effective path out of poverty - people who finish college tend to be healthier, wealthier, and happier. The To&Through Project from the University of Chicago provides educators, policymakers, and families with research, data, and resources on the milestones that matter most for college success so that, together, we can give every ninth grader who aspires to earn a college degree the opportunity and support to do so.



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According to Achieve's new report with the National Center on Educational Outcomes,

26 states

require students with disabilities to earn the state's regular high school diploma.

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*All students should graduate from high school
ready for college, careers, and citizenship.*

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