

Date: 5/15/2007

**Establishing a Baseline for REL Southwest Performance and Identifying Customer Needs:  
Survey Tasks 1.1.1 and 1.1.2**

**<Online Survey for Local and State Chamber of Commerce Presidents>**

**<Introduction script for online survey>**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. This survey has been developed by Edvance Research, Inc., a national research organization. Information collected through this survey will be used to assist the United States Department of Education in learning more about your education research needs.

We greatly value the opinion of Chamber of Commerce Presidents such as yourself and are interested in obtaining your feedback. It should not take you more than 15 minutes to complete this survey.

Responses to this data collection will be used only for statistical purposes. The reports prepared for this study will summarize findings across the sample and will not associate responses with a specific district or individual. We will not provide information that identifies you or your district to anyone outside the study team, except as required by law.

Please click on "Next" to begin the survey.

QA. Are you **currently** serving in the role of "President" of the Chamber of Commerce in your city, state or region? (Select only one.)

1. Yes, I am the current President of the Chamber of Commerce in my city, state or region
2. No **<Terminate and SKIP TO CLOSING STATEMENT>**

Q1. Specify your industry of primary employment:

1. Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical
2. Construction
3. Education
4. Energy/Utilities
5. Engineering
6. Financial Services
7. Government and Policy
8. Healthcare
9. Hospitality/Tourism
10. Legal
11. Manufacturing
12. Military
13. Non-Profit
14. Real Estate
15. Retail/Wholesale
16. Other (specify)

Q2. At which level(s) of education are you, in conjunction with your Chamber of Commerce, currently involved or interested? (Select all that apply.)

1. Elementary/Secondary Education
  - a. Pre-K/Kindergarten
  - b. Elementary
  - c. Middle/Junior
  - d. High
2. Higher Education

- a. Two Year College
  - b. Four Year College
  - c. Graduate School
3. Other/Don't know <Terminate and SKIP TO CLOSING STATEMENT>

Q3. Select your primary state of employment: <Participants who do not select at least one of the 5 REL SOUTHWEST states will be terminated from the survey process>

1. Arkansas
2. Louisiana
3. New Mexico
4. Oklahoma
5. Texas
6. Other <Terminate and SKIP TO CLOSING STATEMENT>

Q4. Specify your sex:

1. Male
2. Female

Q5a. Specify your ethnicity: (Select one)

1. Hispanic or Latino
2. Not Hispanic or Latino

Q5b. Specify your race: (Select one or more)

1. American Indian or Alaska Native
2. Asian
3. Black or African American
4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
5. White

Q6. Prior to this survey, how aware were you of the Regional Educational Laboratories, also referred to as the REL Network? Please assign an awareness rating using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = "Unaware" and 5 = "Aware". \_\_\_\_\_

Q7. How aware are you of SEDL (also referred to as the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory)? Please assign an awareness rating using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = "Unaware" and 5 = "Aware". \_\_\_\_\_

Q8. How aware are you of REL Southwest or SWREL (also referred to as the Regional Educational Laboratory -- Southwest)? Please assign an awareness rating using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = "Unaware" and 5 = "Aware". \_\_\_\_\_

Q9. Do you use/refer to research that focuses on educational issues?

1. Yes <SKIP TO Q11>
2. No

Q10. Specify your reasons for not using/referring to research that focuses on educational issues: (Select all that apply)

1. I have trouble finding research.
2. Research available is not relevant to my job.
3. I doubt the quality of research that is available.
4. Research available is difficult to understand.
5. Other (Specify)

<SKIP TO Q19>

Q11. What type of research that focuses on educational issues do you use currently (or have you used in the past)? (Select all that apply)

1. Research that will help students in a specific subject area (such as Math, Reading, etc.)
2. Research that will help me better understand government policy that affects students' education (such as No Child Left Behind (NCLB), etc.)
3. Research about the tests/assessments given to students.
4. Research that will help me learn more about a particular text book or curriculum.
5. Research about social issues affecting education (e.g., Teenage pregnancy, child obesity, etc.)
6. Research on workforce readiness
7. Other (Specify)

Q12. Why do you use/refer to research that focuses on educational issues? (Select all that apply)

1. To better perform my job functions
2. To stay informed of education issues in which I am interested
3. To make decisions
4. To ensure that educational products/curriculum that are implemented (or are being implemented) are research based
5. To assess workforce readiness of high school and college students
6. Other (Specify)

Q13. Complete the following by selecting one of the following choices. "When I come across any research that focuses on education, I generally ...

1. assume it to be of the highest quality."
2. do not make any assumptions until I have reviewed it."

Q14. Generally, after reviewing a research report that focuses on educational issues, how comfortable do you feel in deciding on its quality?

1. Very comfortable
2. Somewhat comfortable
3. Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable
4. Somewhat uncomfortable
5. Very uncomfortable

Q15. Overall, how satisfied are you with the **quality of education research** that is currently available on topics that are important to you?

1. Very satisfied
2. Somewhat satisfied
3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
4. Somewhat dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied

Q16. How satisfied are you with the **relevancy/applicability of education research** that is currently available?

1. Very satisfied
2. Somewhat satisfied
3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
4. Somewhat dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied

Q17. Please list any improvements that you would like to see made in the education research that is currently available. \_\_\_\_\_

Q18. How do you become aware of research that focuses on educational issues? (Select all that apply.)

1. Internet
2. Colleague(s)
3. Friends who are educators
4. Direct mail/Email
5. Professional organization(s)
6. Research provided by educational institution/school district
7. Library
8. Academic publications/journals
9. Newspapers
10. Conferences
11. Education publisher(s)
12. US Department of Education website/Institute of Education Sciences (IES) website
13. National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) publications
14. State Department of Education website
15. Regional Educational Laboratory website/publications
16. What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)
17. Local education agency (LEA)
18. Comprehensive Assistance Centers
19. Other (Specify)

Q19. How important are the following education issues/research topics to you, as they relate to improved academic performance? After selecting "importance ratings" for each item, please assign a rank of "1" to the one item that you find to be the most important.

Assign Rank of "1" to only one item which is most important for you	Education Issues / Research Topics					Extremely Important 5	Not Familiar with Topic
		Not at all important 1	2	3	4		
	Assessment and Standards (e.g., diagnostic, formative, state and National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) standards)						
	Workforce Readiness						
	Early Childhood/Early Intervention & Prevention						
	Education Infrastructure (e.g., leadership, cost-studies, teacher retention, organization development, & service coordination)						
	Education Research (e.g., evaluating effectiveness of programs)						
	English Language Learners (ELL), English as a Second Language (ESL), Bilingual Education						
	Equity & Diversity (e.g., urban, rural, & special populations)						

Family & Community (e.g., parent involvement, substance abuse prevention in schools, obesity, after school programs, mentoring, worker training, & volunteer leadership)						
K-12 School & District Reform						
Legal Issues for Teachers/Administrators/Students (e.g., liability, teacher/student rights, harassment)						
Mathematics						
Policy & Legislation (e.g., No Child Left Behind (NCLB), Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA))						
Post-Secondary (e.g., P-16, college readiness, & teacher preparation)						
Professional Development						
Reading & Writing						
Response to Intervention (RTI)						
Safety (e.g. bullying, school violence)						
Science						
Special Education & Disabilities						
Teacher Incentive Pay						
Technology in Learning (e.g., use in professional development, instruction, & infrastructure)						

Q20. Please specify any other education issues/research topics that relate to improved academic performance and are important for you: \_\_\_\_\_

Q21. If there are any other comments that you would like us to receive (regarding the education research needs of your region), please enter them in the space provided below.

\_\_\_\_\_

Q22. Would you like to receive educational research/research notifications through email?

1. Yes (**"Please enter your professional email"**) \_\_\_\_\_
2. No

Q23. Please provide your professional contact information (*optional*). (**Note: Please provide your professional information.**):

- Name:
- Name of Chamber of Commerce:
- City:
- State:
- Zip:

**<Closing Statement>**

Thank you for your time. Your responses will aid in the development and implementation of research that will be used to make evidence-based decisions and to positively impact student performance in your state.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **XXXX**. The time required to complete this form is estimated to average 15 minutes per respondent, including the time to review instructions and complete the survey. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651. **If you have any comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to:** Edvance Research, Inc., Market Research Director, 9901 IH-10 West, Suite 700, San Antonio, TX, 78230.