

Following The Leaders

Legislative & Policy Institute
September 20-21, 2002

Westfield Marriott
Chantilly, Virginia

The *Following The Leaders (FTL)* Legislative & Policy Institute will provide a unique forum for key policymakers from each state to work on their state response to the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA)* in a focused and supported environment. The September, 2002, institute will focus on legislative and other policy changes that need to be made by each participating state in light of NCLBA (though states will also be invited to consider reforms that go beyond NCLBA requirements). The institute is jointly sponsored by AccountabilityWorks and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). Typical state delegations may include state legislative leaders, governors' education aides, the state schools chief and senior aides, and state board members or senior staff. Future FTL institutes will focus on implementation issues and are not likely to include general government officials.

The institute topics fall into three general categories: Accountability & Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP); Standards, Assessments and Data Disaggregation; Corrective Action for Failing Schools and Districts & Preventing Failing Schools and Districts. These topics will be addressed by a "faculty" of national and state experts in panel presentations to the full group. Following the panel presentations, break-outs will allow each state team to meet as a small group and work on reforms specific to their state in each of the institute topics. During this time, the faculty will circulate among the states as resource persons available "as needed." At the end of the Institute, one member from each state delegation will make a short (10-15 minute) presentation to the full group summarizing the state's plans for reform in these areas.

An outline of the Institute agenda is as follows. (The agenda is not final and is likely to be modified.) For each panel, we provide an illustrative list of *some* of the topics to be addressed.

Friday, September 20

8:30 – 9:00 Breakfast

9:00 – 10:00 Panel 1: Accountability & Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Institute faculty address:

- Principles of NCLBA accountability
- Absolute models for AYP (“percent proficient”)
- Growth models for AYP (“value-added”)
- Avoiding excessive numbers of schools identified as failing
- Developing a coherent, valid accountability system

10:00 – 11:00 Panel 2: Standards, Assessments, and Reporting Data

Institute faculty address:

- Filling in “off-grade” assessments/performance benchmarks
- Refining of standards, linking them to post-secondary expectations
- Implementing a database to meet NCLBA reporting requirements
- Defining “proficient” achievement
- Preparing for legal defense of high-stakes testing
- Incorporating special needs students

11:00 – 12:00 State Team Break-Outs

Institute faculty available, circulate as “on call” resource persons for state teams meeting separately.

12:00 – 1:15 Lunch

1:15 – 3:00 State Team Break-Outs

Institute faculty available, circulate as “on call” resource persons for state teams meeting separately.

3:00 – 3:15 Break

3:15 – 5:00 State Team Break-Outs

Institute faculty available, circulate as “on call” resource persons for state teams meeting separately..

6:00 – 8:30 Reception/Dinner

Saturday, September 21

8:30 – 9:00 Breakfast

9:00 – 10:00 Panel 3: Corrective Action for Failing Districts & Schools,
Preventing Failing Districts & Schools

Institute faculty address:

- Addressing NCLBA “highly qualified” teacher requirement
- Targeting resources, intervention among failing districts, schools
- Effective models for state intervention in failing districts, schools
- Accountability for supplemental services vendors

10:00 – 12:00 State Team Break-Outs

Institute faculty available, circulate as “on call” resource persons for state teams meeting separately.

12:00 – 1:15 Lunch

1:15 – 2:00 State Team Break-Outs

Institute faculty available, circulate as “on call” resource persons for state teams meeting separately.

2:00 – 4:00 State Team Presentations

One member of each state team makes a short (10-15 min.) presentation to the full group on plans the state team has developed to address the institute topics & any other accountability topics of interest to the state.

4:00 Depart