

Appendix II: Technical Assistance and Peer Learning Activities

Inaugural Forum

Upon selection, participating colleges and state partner organizations will attend a forum planned and implemented by ATD and the WFSN Initiative Advisory Committee to mark the launch of the Initiative. The forum will lay the groundwork for the continued planning and implementation phases of the strategy and will establish the basis for the WFSN intrastate learning networks. Numerous workshops will be held for college teams to update and flesh out ideas for their WFSN implementation and action plans.

Participating colleges will continue to refine their WFSN implementation plans for four months following the forum, during which ATD will provide technical assistance and actionable feedback on their plans. Implementation plans will include strategies for:

1. implementing and scaling WFSN program elements;
2. garnering broad stakeholder engagement;
3. developing internal and external communications strategies; and
4. designing processes for effective data collection, analysis, and presentation.

Intra-State Learning Meetings:

The state partner organization will work with the Coordinating College in their state and ATD Staff on developing and overseeing an annual plan for a robust learning agenda for consortium colleges within each state. The plan calls for colleges convening approximately every other month either virtually or in-person, with at least one in-person meeting per year. The state partner organization will create opportunities for consortium colleges to share progress and lessons with other colleges in the state via webinars, conferences or other activities developed in consultation with the consortium colleges.

Cross-State Learning Meetings:

WFSN state partner organization will be invited to send representatives to Achieving the Dream's semi-annual state policy meetings that for the past ten years have highlighted and vetted solutions to the most pressing policy issues in the reform movement. Through participation in these forums, the state partner organizations will deepen their understanding of how to build a policy environment that supports the sustainability and scaling of the WFSN model and help generate interest in the WFSN model in the other networked states (as noted earlier, it is not expected that the state partner organization will engage in WFSN-specific policy work in year 1).

National ATD Learning Network:

Time will be reserved at DREAM (ATD's annual conference) for WFSN college representatives to meet to discuss progress and problem-solve common challenges. For several years, ATD has featured the WFSN strategy at Spotlight sessions and concurrent workshops during DREAM. ATD will continue to offer a variety of sessions at each DREAM to help spread awareness and adoption of effective practices. As colleges in the WFSN network build evidence of success, they will become the featured presenters. ATD will help cover expenses, for a select number of consortia representatives, for two large WFSN convenings: colleges' participation during DREAM; and one other large national convening of WFSN consortia representatives.