

Investing in Innovation (i3) Funding Alignment

What are Investing in Innovation (i3) grants?

Through Investing in Innovation (i3), Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and nonprofit organizations with a record of improving student achievement will expand the implementation of, and investment in, innovative practices that are demonstrated to have an impact on:

- Improving student achievement or student growth
- Closing achievement gaps
- Decreasing dropout rates
- Increasing high school graduation rates
- Improving college enrollment and completion rates

How is i3 funding distributed?

i3 funds are competitive grants (Development, Validation and Scale-up) given to LEAs and nonprofit organizations that have significantly closed the achievement gaps between economically disadvantaged students, students from major racial and ethnic groups, students with limited English proficiency, students with disabilities; or have demonstrated success in significantly increasing student academic achievement for all groups of students; or have made significant improvements in other areas such as graduate rates or increased recruitment and placement of high-quality teachers and principals. In 2010, forty-nine i3 grants were awarded through a competitive process. In 2011, additional funding is planned to continue the support and expansion of these projects.

How can i3 funding be used?

- **Absolute Priorities** Applicants must select one of the four absolute priorities: Innovations that Support Effective Teachers and Principals, Innovations that Improve the Use of Data, Innovations that Complement the Implementation of High Standards and High Quality Assessments, and Innovations that Turn Around Persistently Low-performing Schools.
- **Competitive Preference Priorities** Applicants may also choose to write to any of four competitive preference priorities: Improve Early Learning Outcomes, Support College Access and Success, Address the Unique Needs of Students with Disabilities and Limited English Proficient Students, and Serve Schools in Rural LEAs.

What ScholarCentric solutions can be part of a i3 grant?

ScholarCentric's middle and high school materials, technology, and services align well with i3 funding in the following categories: innovations that support effective teachers and principals, improve the use of data, complement the implementation of high standards and assessments, and turn around low-performing schools. In addition, its solutions are geared to helping support college access and success, address the unique needs of students with disabilities and limited English proficient students, and can service schools in rural LEAs.



- **Success Highways™** develops the critical resiliency skills that are scientifically linked to middle and high school students' academic success. Students with greater resiliency are more intrinsically motivated to do well in school and have greater attendance, behavior, and coursework (ABCs) than their peers. Using *Success Highways* early-warning assessments, educators can learn why students have academic difficulty or success. With *Success Highways* research-based curriculum and capacity-building professional development, teachers can assure that all students gain or maintain the ability to academically succeed.



- **Resiliency Leaders consulting and professional development services** help educators create comprehensive learning environments where students' cognitive and affective needs are met. Working with one or all of ScholarCentric's transformation experts, districts or schools can create professional learning communities geared towards students' academic success.