


OVERVIEW









Integrated student support is an evidence-based approach for schools to provide student support by intentionally and systematically leveraging and coordinating the resources and relationships available in the school and in the surrounding community to address the comprehensive strengths and needs of each and every student to help promote healthy child development and learning.

Integrated student support is not a new program, but the development of a coordinating infrastructure that leverages existing school- and community-resources to more effectively and efficiently address the needs and interests of students.

The National Guidelines for Integrated Student Support illuminate how poli-

At least 25 states are at some stage of policymaking to advance integrated student support. States are advancing on three policy trajectories: advancing frameworks and best practices, incentivizing implementation of evidence-based models, or a hybrid of the two. Policymakers must keep apprised of new information on the rapidly evolving evidence, the complex needs of students, and dynamic political contexts. This Toolkit can assist state policymakers in advancing legislation and protocols informed by the best practices reflected in the National Guidelines for Integrated Student Support, the sciences of learning and development, and examples of legislative and administrative language in use across the country.

The Toolkit assists policymakers in making strategic decisions suited to their unique state and local contexts. It highlights three paths informed by current state policy trends:

- **A**  **B**  guides state policymakers in establishing best practices and the conditions which promote high-quality implementation of integrated student support.
- **A**  **B**  guides state policymakers seeking to scale evidence-based models of integrated student support.
- **A**  **A**  assists state policymakers in combining the promotion of best practices and the scaling of evidence-based models.

Integrated student support allows policymakers to promote evidence-based approaches that address the comprehensive strengths and needs of students so that they can succeed in school and in life. To learn more about drafting informed legislation, frameworks, and budgets, see the [Toolkit](#).