

Mississippi and The Southern Regional Education Board

This report details Mississippi's participation in SREB programs and services from June 2014 through May 2015. Appropriations from member states support SREB's core operations and general services. SREB leverages the long-standing commitment of member states to attract external funding for an array of targeted projects for educational improvement efforts in member states. Mississippi receives a number of general services, plus access to programs funded by grants, contracts and fees for specific services.

Leadership

SREB Board

Phil Bryant, Governor

Terry C. Burton, State Senator

Videt Carmichael, State Senator

Charles L. Harrison, Educational Consultant, the Excellence Group

Vacancy (2019)

SREB Legislative Advisory Council

Terry C. Burton, State Senator, Newton

Videt Carmichael, State Senator, Meridian

Herbert D. Frierson, State Representative, Poplarville

Nolan Mettetal, State Representative, Sardis

John L. Moore, State Representative, Brando

Policy

Goals for education | Monitoring state policies

Monitoring, measuring and reporting through comparative and state-specific reports to assist education leaders and policymakers as they shape public policy in education. SREB tracks trends and analyzes the progress of all 16 SREB states in each area in the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education and provides Legislative Reports that detail legislative and budget actions in each state.

Mississippi information is included in all reports, as applicable, and several are targeted specifically for Mississippi.

Reports published in 2014:

Mississippi: Taking Stock and Moving Forward

2014 State Progress Report on the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education

High School to College and Careers, 2014

The ACT and SAT: No Longer Just College Admission Tests

SREB States Transform School Accountability with NCLB Waivers, 2014

Workforce Development in SREB States: The Role of Two-Year Colleges in Preparing Students for Middle-Skill Jobs

Focus on Compulsory Attendance Policies: About Age or Intervention?

Notes on School Finance: Selected Information on Funding for Low-Income Students in SREB States

Legislative Reports and Legislative Briefing

More information: Joan.Lord@SREB.org or Jeff.Gagne@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

College and career readiness

Intensive work to help states implement essential components of SREB's recommendations for statewide college and career readiness.

1. Adopt statewide readiness standards for literacy and mathematics skills.
2. Assess high school juniors to determine their progress toward the standards.
3. Offer transitional readiness courses. Require juniors assessed as underprepared to take the courses in 11th or 12th grade.
4. Apply the standards in deciding whether students need learning support after admission to college.
5. Hold schools accountable for increasing postsecondary readiness.

SREB staff have met with Mississippi legislators about postsecondary readiness and college completion. Vice President Cheryl Blanco and Readiness Courses Manager Megan Root facilitated a meeting of selected college mathematics and English language arts developmental education faculty in May 2014.

SREB is assisting Mississippi in its review of K-12 standards in literacy and mathematics.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Readiness

Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards

Tracks and reports state progress on how states are implementing college- and career-readiness standards.

SREB launched a new phase of benchmarking in February 2015. In this work, SREB tracks and will report on implementation of standards and related reforms in **all 16 SREB** states.

Publications

In January 2015, SREB published ***Benchmarking State Implementation of College-and Career-Readiness Standards, Aligned Assessments and Related Reforms***. Six reports make up the set covering 14 states: a cross-state findings report that describes trends across the states— plus five reports with detailed state profiles by topic.

The reports note Mississippi as a ***strong state*** for standards and assessments and professional development.

Support for States

In August 2014, SREB convened leaders from eight SREB states, including a team from Mississippi, and national experts in Atlanta to share information about and resources for implementation of college- and career-readiness standards.

SREB's benchmarking staff provided information and support to state leaders on the implementation of standards and related reforms during fall 2014 and winter 2015.

Benchmarking staff presented on implementation of college- and career-readiness standards to:

- SREB Board and Legislative Advisory Council members, including attendees from Mississippi, at SREB's 2014 Annual Meeting in June.
- Legislative and governors' staff, including attendees from Mississippi, in October 2014.

More information: Kim.Anderson@SREB.org | (404) 775-9366 | SREB.org/1600

English Learners

Conference on preparing English language learners for college and career, co-hosted in May 2014 by SREB, the National Council on La Raza and the Hunt Institute.

Mississippi sent a team to the conference, and a **fact sheet for Mississippi** includes population trends; state and federal policies; and programs, standards and assessments for English learners.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1785

Educator effectiveness

Helps states create policies that support teacher effectiveness so students learn more in the classroom. SREB staff work with policymakers and state agencies in all member states to help them translate current research on what works into evaluation systems that create an environment where teaching improves.

Members of the SREB educator effectiveness team facilitated several breakout sessions during the March 2015 Advisory Meeting for the SREB Benchmarking State Implementation of College and Career Readiness Standards project.

Strategic Data Fellows working at the Mississippi Department of Education participated in an SREB webinar in February on state teacher equity plans for.

A representative from the Mississippi Department of Education shared their experience building and implementing educator evaluation systems and networked with other SREB state representatives at **SREB's annual educator effectiveness convening** in Atlanta in February 2015.

Representatives from the Mississippi Department of Education attended the Equitable Access to Excellent Teachers and Leaders meeting in San Diego in February, during which the SREB educator effectiveness team presented information on state equity plans.

The educator effectiveness team refreshed the **educator effectiveness Bill Tracker** in January 2015, which allows Mississippi policymakers to track bills across eight topics including teacher preparation, evaluation and professional learning.

Staff presented on educator evaluation at SREB's Legislative Advisory Council meeting in December 2014.

Staff provided general technical assistance at an Education Counsel event on state teacher equity plans in November 2014.

The team **released the Elements of Evaluation interactive database** in October 2014, which allows Mississippi policymakers to explore policies across 16 states on classroom observations, student growth measures and professional learning systems.

Staff provided expertise to the Mississippi officials who attended the Benchmarking State Implementation of College and Career Readiness Standards meeting in August 2014.

Staff traveled to Jackson three times this year to provide technical assistance to **Mississippi Department of Education** staff who are leading the implementation of the state's new educator evaluation system.

More than 1,000 policymakers and practitioners across the 16 SREB states receive the bi-weekly educator effectiveness e-newsletter.

The SREB educator effectiveness team provided technical assistance, brokered expertise and provided policy and practice resources to Mississippi:

- SREB Board and LAC members
- State legislators and legislative staff
- Governor's staff
- State education agency staff
- District superintendents
- School principals
- Teachers

More information: Andy.Baxter@SREB.org | (704) 247-7497 | SREB.org/EE

Early childhood education

SREB Early Childhood Commission

Convenes leaders to recommend policies that will give more young children a solid start when they enter school. The Commission's focus is on access to high-quality programs and the importance of highly skilled teachers to young children's learning experiences. The Commission will present draft recommendations for the SREB Board to consider in summer 2015 and will publish its report later in 2015.

Mississippi members of the Commission:

John Moore, State Representative

Gray Tollison, State Senator

More information: Mark.Emblidge@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/EarlyLearning

Career and technical education

SREB Commission on Career and Technical Education

Explored how optional career pathway programs of study can help more students acquire the academic and technical knowledge and skills needed to earn industry and postsecondary credentials and degrees to secure high-skill, high-wage, high-demand jobs.

The Commission's final report, *Credentials for All: An Imperative for SREB States*, offers states policies and practices to build high-quality career pathways that transform their educational systems, increase post-secondary credential and degree attainment, and ensure their future economic security.

Mississippi members of the Commission:

Terry Burton, State Senator

Jean Massey, Associate State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/CTECommission

Postsecondary education

Two commissions carried SREB's completion initiative into the states in 2014 and 2015 with strong emphasis on readiness and pathways for community colleges and affordability for all students. Building on the success of 2011-14 regional working groups of legislators to vet issues and craft recommendations, both commissions included Board and Legislative Advisory Council members and other key policymakers in the states.

SREB Community College Commission

Charged with recommending statewide strategies to strengthen the role of community and technical colleges in raising educational attainment in Southern states.

Mississippi member of the Commission:

John Polk, State Senator

More information: Cheryl.Blanco@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/CommunityColleges

SREB Commission on College Affordability in the South

Met during 2014 and 2015 to examine states' goals for postsecondary access and attainment and the role affordability should play in achieving those priorities. Drawing on affordability profiles prepared for each state, current research findings and examples of promising practices, the Commission will issue a report and policy recommendations in early 2016.

Mississippi members of the Commission:

Glenn Boyce, Commissioner of Higher Education, Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi

Herb Frierson, State Representative

Mac Huddleston, State Representative

John Polk, State Senator

More information: Cheryl.Blanco@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Affordability

State Services

Connects policymakers with custom information, presentations and assistance on education issues as they arise.

Custom information by request of Mississippi policymakers and staff:

Governor's staff: teacher salary schedules

Staff: out-of-state postsecondary students

Staff: assessment scores

Legislator: state standards

Legislator: benefits of early learning

More information: Gale.Gaines@SREB.org | (404) 879-5582 | SREB.org/StateServices

Professional Development for Teachers, Principals and Counselors

SREB and the Mississippi Department of Education have partnered together to roll out literacy and mathematics strategies known as the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) and the Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC) in up to 30 middle grades and high schools per year for three years, for a total of 90 schools. Cohort 1 began with 29 schools, and SREB plans to include 31 schools in the second cohort, which will begin in August. SREB worked with the Mississippi Department of Education to identify a former district superintendent, John Buchanan, who helps coordinate the effort.

Mathematics Design Collaborative

A teaching framework to help students understand basic mathematics concepts, become fluent with mathematics procedures, and develop the reasoning to apply them to solve problems. MDC teachers use formative assessment lessons — a hybrid of assessment and instruction — to help students master college- and career-readiness standards. SREB's innovative training builds the capacity of lead teachers to become trainers of other teachers.

Mississippi teacher experts trained in MDC by SREB in 2014-15: **68**

Mississippi local trainers trained in MDC in 2014-15: **14**

Training days: **8**

Number of schools: **29**

After one year of implementing MDC in 2011-12, **Hinds County School District** in **Raymond** met its annual measurable objective in mathematics for the first time. In 2013, mathematics was the only subject to show measurable growth.

“Since implementing MDC, my students are now taking much more responsibility for their own learning. I am now asking questions and engaging my students in productive struggle instead of telling them how to do it.”

— Toni Canizaro, Teacher, **Carver Middle Freshman Academy**

The **Hinds County School District** is featured for Mathematics Design Collaboration implementation in a September 2014 SREB publication of vignettes, *Students Step Up When Teachers and Leaders Transform Classrooms*.

Literacy Design Collaborative

A teaching framework to help students learn the literacy skills of college- and career-readiness standards. Teachers learn to design assignments that engage students to learn subject content, while advancing reading and writing skills. SREB’s innovative training starts with exemplary teachers, who then work with other teachers to help them adopt the strategies.

Mississippi local trainers trained in LDC by SREB in 2014-15: **10**

Training days: **8**

Number of schools: **29**

SREB is working with legislative leadership, the Mississippi Department of Education, and local school districts in the Mississippi Delta region to form a consortium of middle grades and high schools to implement LDC and MDC tools and strategies during the 2015-16 school year.

More information: Dan.Mollette@SREB.org | (404) 9629623 | SREB.org/LDCMDC

Teaching to Lead

SREB helps states redesign programs that prepare business professionals to become career and technical education (CTE) teachers through a non-traditional certification route. SREB’s Teaching to Lead program provides new CTE teachers knowledge and skills to manage a classroom of diverse students; plan challenging, work-related assignments that will improve students’ academic, technical and problem-solving skills; motivate students to complete assignments; and assess student progress.

Mississippi has adopted the curriculum, and **65 Mississippi teachers** participated in professional development through this SREB program in 2013-14. Seventy new Mississippi CTE teachers participated in the Teaching Lead professional development in the 2014-15 school year. Teachers receive three coaching visits.

“Just like the real world, education needs to transform itself to stay relevant and keep up with the supply and demand of business and industry. We need to provide our new CTE teachers with the tools and ‘just-in-time’ practical information needed to be successful with their students.”

— Jean Massey, Associate State Superintendent, **Mississippi Department of Education’s Office of Career and Technical Education**

More information: Nancy.Headrick@SREB.org | (573) 680-0476 | SREB.org

High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference

Annual conference for thousands of school leaders, teachers and counselors from middle grades, high schools and technology centers across the country. The 2015 conference will be held in Atlanta July 15-18.

Mississippi attendees at the July 2014 conference: **38**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/SummerConference

College- and Career-Readiness Networking Conference

Conference on the proven strategies of the Literacy and Mathematics Design Collaborative frameworks. More than 1,200 teachers and leaders attend to collaborate and share effective instructional strategies. The 2015 conference will be held in Atlanta July 13-15.

In Mississippi, an invitation to apply for a stipend of \$750 for a school team of five to attend the SREB College- and Career-Readiness Standards Networking Conference was sent to 60 schools that are participating in SREB professional development programs centered on college- and career-readiness literacy and mathematics standards.

Mississippi attendees at the July 2014 conference: **37**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/NetworkingConference

National Professional Development Workshops

Intensive two- to three-day workshops that address current priorities for school improvement. Attendees leave with a plan of action for their schools. During the 2014-15 school year, SREB offered the Aligning High Schools and Middle Grades With Emerging Priorities for College and Career Readiness workshop and the National Technology Centers That Work Leaders’ Forum.

Mississippi teachers, counselors and leaders who participated: **3**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/PD

Learning-Centered Leadership Program

Works with district, state and university partners to prepare aspiring principals and school leadership teams to lead school reform to ensure that students are ready for college and careers. This program offers training, guidance and technical assistance.

Attendees at the 2015 Annual Leadership Forum: **1**

Counselors

College and Career Counseling Initiative

Training to improve the effectiveness of teachers, counselors and college access program staff to prepare students from low-income families for postsecondary education. A 2014 survey of more than 500 enrollees found that 92 percent are changing their practice as a result of the training; 93 percent are implementing action plans developed in the program; and 95 percent would recommend the training to colleagues.

Mississippi is one of 14 participating states and was one of the six original states that formed the collaborative.

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/1663

High School and Middle Grades Improvement

Ready for postsecondary study

SREB courses that teach the reading, writing and mathematics skills young adults must have to succeed in college study and the workplace after high school — how to think independently, read for information and solve problems. Developed by teams of educators and faculty from partner states around the nation, they are being field tested in several states and are available at no cost.

In 2013, **Mississippi** joined the SREB Readiness Courses consortium of states. Five schools are participating in the field test in the 2014-15 school year.

SREB is working closely with Mississippi state education agencies to arrange teacher training on the SREB Readiness Courses for **100 teachers** in summer 2015. The Mississippi Department of Education and higher education agencies are working to implement the policies and support to allow implementation in the 2015-16 school year.

More information: John.Squires@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Ready

Advanced Career

A new approach to career and technical education that combines college-readiness academic content with a sequence of four courses designed around hands-on, project-based assignments. The aim is to prepare more students for as many career options as possible in emerging high-demand, high-wage fields such as health informatics and energy and power.

Mississippi will implement the Advanced Career **integrated production technologies curricula** at **West Point Career & Technology Center** in fall 2015. In preparation for the state's adoption of AC pathways, the state career and technical education director participated in the spring 2015 AC Steering Committee meeting.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/AC

High Schools That Work

Helps states transform public high schools into places where all students learn at high levels and complete at higher rates. Reforms create career pathway roadmaps for college and career readiness to meet regional and state workforce needs. HSTW serves more than 1,350 schools in 30 states. Schools receive services through membership in the HSTW state network or through contracts for intensive, customized support.

HSTW State Network

Member states select schools to receive services. The fee for state membership in the consortium covers several services and visits.

Mississippi is a member of the High Schools That Work state network, in which **13 schools** were active in 2014-15.

Jean Massey, Associate Superintendent, Vocational Education and Workforce Development, Mississippi Department of Education, serves on the HSTW Board and serves as the HSTW State Coordinator.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/HSTW

Contracts for Direct Support

Schools, districts and states contract with SREB for targeted school improvement services, such as on-site coaching, technical assistance and professional development.

In Mississippi in 2014-15:

Schools contracted with SREB for direct services through HSTW: **9**

Days of on-site coaching delivered to schools: **42**

Days of on-site staff development delivered to schools: **16**

More information: Cindy.VanBuren@SREB.org | (803) 984-5986 | SREB.org/HSTW

Special Board Meeting

SREB's HSTW initiative held a special board meeting in March devoted to strengthening the HSTW instructional design to build college and career pathways that link high schools, workplace learning, and community and technical colleges. The goal is to increase the percentage of young people who earn a credible credential by age 25.

Mississippi participant in the March 2015 HSTW Board meeting:

Jean Massey – Mississippi Department of Education

Making Middle Grades Work

Engages state, district and school leaders in partnerships with teachers, students, parents and the community to raise student achievement in the middle grades. The network includes 663 schools in 20 states.

Mississippi is a member of the Making Middle Grades Work network, with **five active schools** in 2014-15.

More information: Deborah.Bass@SREB.org | (404) 7881235 | SREB.org/MMGW

Higher Education Programs and Services

Tuition savings, access to uncommon degrees

Academic Common Market

Provides in-state tuition access to degree programs not available in a student's home state. Approximately 2,500 new students participate each year in 1,900 programs at 150 institutions.

Participating Mississippi students, calendar year 2014: **105**

Mississippi ACM Representative:

Gloria Miller, Director of Student Services, Mississippi State Institutions of Higher Learning

Electronic Campus

Partners with colleges and universities to give students access to almost 37,000 online courses and more than 3,400 online degree programs.

Program provided by Mississippi institutions as of May 2015: **61**

Mississippi EC Representative:

Menia Dykes, Director of Accreditation, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

Mississippi representatives attended the 2014 Electronic Campus annual meeting.

Regional Contract Program

Gives students the opportunity to earn a professional health degree from participating institutions in other states through in-state tuition rates at public institutions or reduced tuition at private institutions. SREB is fiscal agent and handles administrative duties without additional fees to the state, institutions or students. More than 700 students participate each year.

One Mississippi institution provides a program to the Regional Contract Program, making it possible for residents of other states to contract for entry into Mississippi State University in veterinary medicine. The institution receives **more than \$1 million** from other SREB states.

Through the SREB Regional Contract Program, residents of Mississippi can enroll in optometry programs to which they otherwise may not have access. For the 2014-15 academic year, **34 Mississippi residents** participated in the SREB program.

Mississippi RCP Representative:

Tanya Rogers, Director of Student Financial Aid, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

SREB Electronic Campus Regional Reciprocity Agreement

*Allows institutions to be authorized by their home state to eliminate the need for individual approvals in SREB states where they serve students online. SREB states opt in to SECRRRA. A new, nationwide system of reciprocity — **SARA, or the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement** — will open more high-quality online offerings for students and ease regulatory burdens on institutions.*

Mississippi participates in SECRRRA.

More information: Mary.Larson@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1083

Comparative data

SREB-State Data Exchange

Collects, compiles and publishes data and descriptive statistics on postsecondary education. Data are updated annually on a wide range of policy topics: degree and certificate completion, student persistence and progression, time- and credits-to-degree, student credit hours (including those taken in high school), tuition and fee levels and policies, and faculty salaries. Postsecondary agencies in each SREB state participate and appoint coordinators.

Participating agencies and their 2015-16 Data Exchange Coordinators:

Board of Trustees, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning: Mitzi Gendron, Senior Research and Statistical Analyst

Mississippi Community College Board: Raul Fletes, Assistant Executive Director for Research and Planning

SREB Fact Book on Higher Education

One of the nation's most comprehensive collections of comparative data. The Fact Book keeps policymakers informed with trend data for all 50 states on the population and the economy, college enrollment, degrees awarded, tuition and fees, student financial aid and cost of attendance, faculty and administrators, as well as revenue and expenditures including state appropriations. Fact Book tables are updated regularly at SREB.org/Data.

Mississippi leaders receive the annual **SREB-State Data Exchange Indicators Report** and the **SREB Fact Book on Higher Education**, as well as **Mississippi: Featured Facts from the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education**, **Fact Book Bulletins** and special reports.

More information: Susan.Lounsbury@SREB.org | (404) 879-5546 | SREB.org/Data

Nursing education

Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing

Helps expand and strengthen schools of nursing to reduce the critical shortage of nurse educators needed to educate the nation's registered nurses. The Council surveys institutions for nursing education trends and shares online graduate nursing courses.

In Mississippi, **10 institutions** participate in the Council.

Representatives from each institution, with leadership positions on the Council:

Alcorn State University: Yolanda M. Powell-Young, Dean

Coahoma Community College: Beverly Overton, Interim Dean

Delta State University: Lisabeth Carlson, Dean

Hinds Community College: Debra Spring, Director, Finance Committee

Jones County Junior College: Erin Knight, Chair

Mississippi College: Mary Padgett, Dean, Co-Chair

Mississippi University for Women: Sheila Adams, Dean; Nursing Council: Chair, Finance Committee

University of Mississippi Medical Center: Kim Hoover, Dean; Nursing Council: Research Committee member

University of Southern Mississippi: Katherine Nugent, Dean

Williams Carey University: Janet Williams, Dean

More information: Eula.Aiken@SREB.org | (404) 879-5567 | SREB.org/Nursing

Minority Ph.D. scholars

SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program

Supports minority students to help them earn their Ph.D.s and seek employment that helps colleges and universities diversify their faculties. The Doctoral Scholars Program hosts the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, the nation's largest gathering of minority doctoral scholars — with more than 1,200 attendees.

Scholars funded by Mississippi in 2014-15: **5**

2014 Institute attendees from Mississippi: **28**

Scholars Mississippi has supported since joining in 1993: **67**

Graduates since 1993: **48**

Graduates currently employed: **45**

Percent employed in education: **82**

Mississippi-supported students have attended these institutions since 1993:

Jackson State University

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Louisiana State University

University of Southern Mississippi

Mississippi State University

University of Tennessee-Knoxville

University of Mississippi

SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program Regional Advisory Committee Representatives:

Pearl Pennington, Director of Mississippi Higher Education Opportunity Endowment, Mississippi

State Institutions of Higher Learning

Donald Cole, Assistant Provost and Assistant Chancellor for Multicultural Affairs, University of

Mississippi

More information: Ansley.Abraham@SREB.org | (404) 879-5573 | SREB.org/DoctoralScholars

Interstate Cooperatives

Educational Technology Cooperative

Membership group of state K-12 and higher education coordinating and governing boards representing more than 800 colleges and universities and 3,100 school districts in SREB states. The ETC focuses member agencies and state policymakers on using technology wisely, reports on educational technology topics and connects members.

Mississippi member agencies and representatives for the membership year 2014-15:

Mississippi Community College Board: Ray Smith, Assistant Executive Director of Technology

Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning: Casey Turnage, Director of P-20 Initiatives and Enrollment Management

Mississippi sent an attendee to the 2014 annual meeting, and Mississippi's ETC representatives helped determine SREB's **10 Critical Issues in Educational Technology**.

More information: Wanda.Barker@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/EdTech

Technology Purchasing Savings

Schools, universities and agencies in SREB states saved 3 percent to 18 percent on \$17 million in technology purchases during fiscal year 2014 through SREB's participation in MHECtech discount agreements. Organizations in each of the 16 SREB states participated.

Mississippi technology purchases, FY 2014: **\$164,500**

More information: Camille.Martin@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1697

Go Alliance

An interstate cooperative to increase high school graduation rates, access to education beyond high school, and postsecondary degree completion — particularly for those who would be the first in their families to enroll. Go Alliance research, services and professional development focus on college access policy and communications strategies to motivate students to plan for and apply to college.

Mississippi participates in Go Alliance through the annual meeting and workshops that highlight best practices and aid in the replication of successful programs.

Mississippi Go Alliance Representative: Marsha Watson, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

“Go Alliance has been an exceptional source of information, support and ideas from the start of the [College Access Challenge Grant] project. Having the opportunity to connect with other states via in-person and online meetings and seminars has certainly added value to the MS project and helped us tremendously with the implementation of the SREB counselor training initiative.”

— Marsha Watson, Institutions of Higher Learning

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/GoAlliance

The Southern Regional Education Board was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislators who recognized the link between education and economic vitality. To this day, the organization maintains its focus on critical issues that hold the promise of improving quality of life by advancing public education. The region's track record shows that setting goals and maintaining the commitment to work toward them make a difference.