Get to Know Us
School and district leaders play a vital role in school success and enable conditions for high-quality teaching and learning. We know that our students deserve strong and responsive school and district leaders who prioritize the needs of diverse populations and communities. The School Leadership Development and Supports (SLDS) Collaborative is composed of state leaders responsible for advancing and implementing school leadership strategies. Our members are focused on ensuring that reliable and quality leadership guides our students on every step of their journey through the education system.

Benefits of Our Collaborative
Our members believe the best leaders lift up every one of their students, not just the ones with the most advantages in the first place. A school or district leader plays a vital role in creating a culture of equity in their school. As a member of our Collaborative, you’ll learn from practitioners, researchers, and experts in the field, and engage with other states to glean invaluable insight to help you strengthen school leadership in your state. Expect to join a professional learning community that encourages honest and open dialogue about challenges, successes, lessons learned, and plans for continuous improvement. Here are a few highlights from last year’s Collaborative sessions:

• We explored, identified, and disseminated the proven methods to strengthen principal pipelines.
• Members attended equity sessions to guide states in the construction of their school leadership-focused equity frameworks.
• We focused on building sustainable partnerships between the state and district to ensure cohesive school leadership strategies that will strengthen principal pipelines.

Our Focus in 2020-2021
We will work together to identify promising practices to help states address the implications of COVID-19 on school leadership. Utilizing a series of convenings, guest speakers, and more, states will have the opportunity to collaborate with peers, seek feedback, and engage professional learning led by experts in the field. You will receive guidance on how to build and sustain strong school leader pipelines from pre-service to retention, and share your own knowledge with fellow members. Expect to return to your state with an action plan for advancing equitable school leadership strategies informed by support from national experts, peers and researchers.

Here’s Where You’ll Find Us
For the 2020-2021 program year, meetings will be held in-person when possible, and virtually when necessary due to safety. Any in-person meetings will also include the option to participate virtually. The School Leadership Development and Supports Collaborative meeting dates for this program year are:

• October 21-22, 2020
• February 23-24, 2021 (Jacksonville, FL)
• June 24-25, 2021 (Minneapolis, MN)