

NCRERN Applicant FAQ's

1. Which districts are eligible to apply?

For this year, only rural districts in New York and Ohio are eligible. Your district is considered rural if it meets NCES's or your SEA's definition of rural. Please see our comprehensive [list](#) of districts to see if your district is eligible.

2. What is the application process for NCRERN?

To apply for NCRERN, districts must apply by April 30, 2019.

1. **Online Application** (reviewed on a rolling basis)
2. **Phone Interview between data team / ITC and NCRERN staff** (scheduled within 2 weeks of application deadline to assess data availability and transfer capability.)
3. **Phone interview between district leadership and NCRERN** (scheduled within 3 weeks application deadline for applicants to assess fit with NCRERN.)
4. *If selected, Letter of Commitment*
5. *If selected, Final Contract and Data Use Agreement*

[New York Application](#)

[Ohio Application](#)

3. How will NCRERN select which districts to accept?

NCRERN will use this [rubric](#) to evaluate district applications and interviews. The rubric outlines specific criteria related to assessment data availability and district leadership commitment.

4. Will there be a cost associated with partnership?

NCRERN services are provided to network participants at no cost, except for travel. Participating districts are responsible for covering the costs of travel for their team. Annual travel costs (e.g., flight/ground transportation, hotel, and meals) for three statewide meetings and annual convenings is estimated to be \$2,700 per person, or \$8,100 for a team of 3.

5. What focus areas will NCRERN have? Does my district need to be interested in all to apply?

NCRERN will focus on chronic absenteeism, college readiness, and college enrollment. While your district does not have to be interested in all the focus areas, all applicants should be committed to working on chronic absenteeism, which will be the only focus of our first year. We are most interested in partnering with districts whose priorities overlap with these three focus areas.

6. Who from my district will be involved in the partnership?

We recommend that your team consists of 2-3 individuals who have decision-making authority and/or have a deep understanding of your schools' context. We require participation from your superintendent and/or one member of your district leadership team. Your team could also include a staff member from your regional data center and/or regional service center.

7. Who should I contact for additional information?

- General inquiries: ncrern@gse.harvard.edu
- NY Districts: Rachel Urso, Project Coordinator, Rachel_Urso@gse.harvard.edu
- OH Districts: Emily Pipes, Project Coordinator, Emily_Pipes@gse.harvard.edu