

VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 1
August 2018

A PUBLICATION OF THE
STELAR CENTER AT EDC

**The Innovative Technology
Experiences for Students
and Teachers (ITEST)**

program was established by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2003 to help ensure the breadth and depth of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workforce, in direct response to concerns and projections about the growing demand for and current shortages of STEM professionals in the U.S.

The STEM Learning and Research (STELAR) Center at Education Development Center, Inc., in partnership with the Goodman Research Group, Inc., assists ITEST principal investigators (PIs) and evaluators to design, refine, and evaluate their ITEST projects and to effectively synthesize and disseminate project findings.

This data brief explores the partnerships that ITEST projects engage in for project planning and design, implementation, dissemination, and evaluation. This data brief uses the results of the 2017 Management Information System (MIS), which was completed by 107 of the 121 active projects.

For more information, questions, or comments:
<http://stelar.edc.org>
stelar@edc.org

Partnerships in ITEST: Findings from 107 Active Projects

53%

of projects identify **PARTNERSHIPS** as the **key** contributing factor to project success

Projects **value** partnerships because they provide



Interactions with industry professionals

Hands-on experiences and real-world skills



Participant mentoring and training

Program delivery assistance



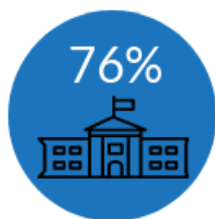
Creation of curricula content

Programming and logistical support

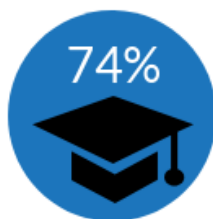


“Partnerships helped... provide access to communities that inspired our youth who had not considered college.”

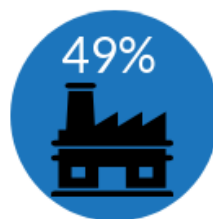
Projects engage with multiple **types** of partners



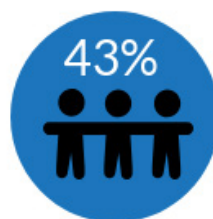
Schools



Colleges/
Universities



Businesses



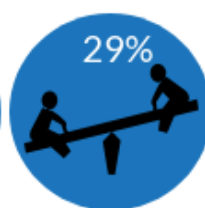
Not-for-profits



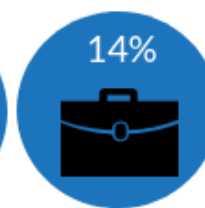
Research
Organizations



Communities



Informal
Organizations

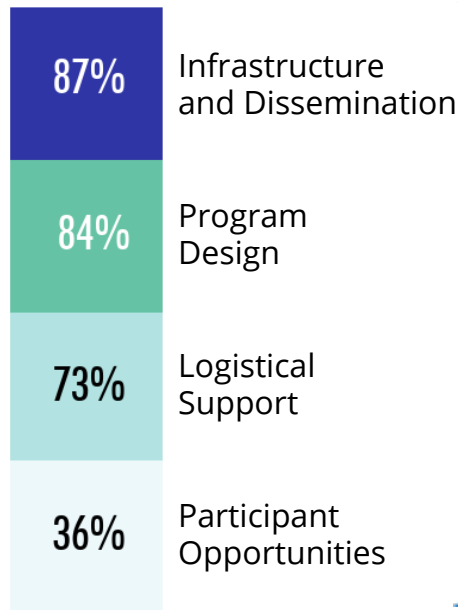


Government



Projects receive significant **assistance** from partners for their program activities

“Partnerships helped... provide the space in a community that historically did not trust research institutions.”



32% of projects have partners who engage in **every** category of partnership activities

Projects work with partners **frequently**



44% Weekly
35% Monthly
15% Quarterly
7% Annually

“Partnerships helped... facilitate data collection and provide consultation related to research designs.”

Projects conduct **research** on partnerships' role in STEM education

4 of **7** NSF 2017 ITEST Guiding Questions explain the role specific partnerships play in:
(a) promoting student awareness of, interest in, and capacity to join the STEM workforce;
(b) supporting teachers in effective STEM pedagogy.

52%

of projects address **at least ONE** of the four guiding questions on research related to partnerships

