



metisassociates

making a meaningful difference

education services



Metis Associates, a national research and consulting firm headquartered in New York City, brings over 30 years of experience in evaluation, information technology, and grant development to its work with a wide range of organizations committed to making a meaningful difference in the lives of children, families, and communities.

Our mission is to support public and private organizations in achieving results for the children, adults, families, and communities they serve. We work closely with our clients, so that together we can strengthen their capacity to carry out their missions, make better decisions, and deliver more effective services.

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Cover photo: Seventh grade students conduct an experiment at the Northeast Preparatory Academy in Rochester, New York, a College Board School that Metis has evaluated.

SINCE 1977, Metis Associates has worked with hundreds of schools and school districts, state education agencies, foundations, colleges, and universities on diverse projects related to K–12 education. Metis provides support in the areas of evaluation, information technology, and grant development.

Whether undertaking systemic reform, developing schools

of choice from the ground up, re-tooling educational programming to reflect best practices and new standards, or evaluating the impact of their interventions, our clients take advantage of our extensive expertise in these areas.

By working with all members of the educational enterprise—teachers, administrators, parents, and students—Metis has gained an insider’s knowledge of the

programmatic and administrative operations of public schools. Our excellent relationships with numerous state education agencies and local boards of education provide us with access to the broader policy context within which so many decisions about public schools are made.

Metis brings tremendous depth and breadth of experience to the table. Our interdisciplinary

project teams, made up of professionals with first-hand experience in the areas of public education, social science, human service, and information technology, work closely to identify and understand clients’ requirements.

We welcome inquiries about how we can best serve you. Please write to us at inquiries@metisassoc.com.

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Evaluation

Metis Associates designs and conducts research studies and evaluation projects for educational institutions, government agencies, foundations, and community-based organizations. We pride ourselves on taking a participatory approach to research and evaluation, helping clients to articulate their theories of change, craft research questions, and determine the evaluation methods that will best answer these questions. Metis balances its strong statistical and quantitative-analysis capabilities with unparalleled qualitative research skills. Our expert staff develops rigorous evaluation plans, designs large databases to monitor trends, and develops and manages surveys and focus groups to provide information that is both accurate and highly useful.

Selected Projects

College Board: Evaluations of the New York Education Initiative and the EXCEerator Initiative, which promote high school success and preparation for college

New York City Department of Education, Office of Multiple Pathways: Evaluation of the Learning to Work initiative, helping at-risk high school students to graduate

Chicago Public Schools: Evaluations of the Supported Core Reading Materials Adoption and Striving Readers programs

William Penn Foundation: Evaluation of the impact of school-reform initiatives in Philadelphia

Newark Public Schools: Evaluation of the federally funded Safe Schools/Healthy Students initiative

Grant Development

With years of experience as practitioners and as consultants in public education, Metis’s grant-development professionals bring a solid grounding in both theory and best practices. Metis staff members become deeply familiar with client organizations, helping them to articulate their needs to funders and advising them on grant-seeking. In addition, Metis supports organizations by designing rigorous program-evaluation plans that give them a competitive edge in the grant-seeking process. Among Metis’s strengths is helping to develop federal grant proposals for K–12 settings in urban, rural, and suburban school districts and for state education agencies.

Selected Projects

Alliance for Academic Excellence: Development of a \$10 million U.S. Department of Education Voluntary Public School Choice grant in Michigan

Studio in a School: Development of a federal grant proposal to create standards-based visual arts curricula that are integrated with ELA and math instruction

Magnet Initiatives: Assistance to 19 school districts in designing magnet programs that netted more than \$100 million in federal Magnet Schools Assistance Program funds

Grants Training and Technical Assistance: Helping our clients develop winning grants on their own



“For almost three decades, the United Federation of Teachers has relied upon Metis Associates for insightful research crucial to our continuing efforts to improve New York City’s public schools. Metis understands the complex challenges facing public education, and its many rock-solid analyses over the years have helped us make a difference in tailoring and shaping education practices for our 100,000 educators and the 1.1 million students they serve.”

— **Randi Weingarten**, former President, United Federation of Teachers

Information Technology

Metis Associates develops information-management solutions for a wide spectrum of organizations, including state education departments and school districts, helping them meet today’s requirements for evidence-based practice and outcome measurement. Metis’s portfolio includes building or integrating client-tracking systems or information repositories, developing Web-based applications, and providing a wide range of technical services, often in conjunction with our evaluation work. Our staff serve not merely as technical specialists but also as partners whose solutions provide real benefit to those our clients serve.

Selected Projects

Philadelphia GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs)

Partnership: Development and ongoing refinement of online databases for tracking student and parent participation

Arkansas Department of Education:

Project management services to guide implementation of a Statewide Longitudinal Data System

Manhattan Comprehensive Night and Day School:

Development of IT capacity and integration of school and New York City Department of Education data

Kansas City Charter Schools:

Technical assistance and training on student assessment database



Metis helped DreamYard, an arts-in-education organization, to evaluate its Bronx Arts Learning Community initiative operating in schools.

“Our goal was to find an evaluator that would work well in collaboration with our internal researchers and the College Board Schools team to develop and implement a high-quality, quasi-experimental, formulative research project that could ultimately guide the work of College Board Schools and assist in determining the efficacy of our new, small schools model. The team at Metis could not be more thoughtful, intelligent or better equipped to do this work, no doubt based on their years of field work in schools within major school systems.”

— **Helen Santiago**, Vice President, College Board Schools