



Title Registration Form

Campbell Collaboration Education Coordinating Group

Titles must be registered BEFORE work commences on reviews.

1. Name and affiliation of primary reviewer: Anthony Petrosino, Learning Innovations at WestEd

Name(s) and affiliation(s) of co-reviewer(s): Claire Morgan, Learning Innovations at WestEd

2. Provisional title: The effects of K-12 school enrollment policies in developing nations

3. Objective: To systematically review the research on the effects of strategies to increase K-12 school enrollment in developing nations to determine their impact on enrollment, retention, and graduation.

4. Rationale for review / background:

The International Initiative on Impact Evaluation (3ei) issued a call for proposals in 2008, in conjunction with C2, for systematic reviews relevant to developing nations. Their mission is to increase the rigor of studies being undertaken in developing nations, with an eye towards increasing the number of high-quality and careful evaluations of development initiatives. A critical part of their mission is to take account of those studies that have already been undertaken and reported. Given the important link between education (particularly mother's education) and key outcomes for children such as health and literacy, governments in developing nations as well as international development organizations, foundations and international government agencies such as the United Nations have been implementing, funding or otherwise supporting strategies to increase school enrollment. A cursory review of the literature shows that some randomized controlled trials and quasi-experiments of these strategies have now been reported, and these need to be systematically reviewed to inform the next wave of development efforts in this area.

5. Review:

a) Intervention: Strategies used to increase student enrollment, attendance and graduation from in public elementary, middle and high school settings (e.g., school subsidies such as that evaluated in the Mexico Progress RCT; cash vouchers as an incentive to enroll children in school, as studied in an Ecuador RCT; ready-to-eat breakfast as studied in a Peru RCT; school construction, as being studied now in Burkina Faso in a regression discontinuity quasi-experimental design).

b) Population: The review focuses on strategies undertaken in developing nations

c) Types of studies included: Randomized controlled trials and quasi-experimental evaluations (with pre or post treatment matching)

d) Quality Assessment. We propose to examine program effects along the following parameters, if possible and appropriate to do so: (1) sample size, (2) attrition, and (3) lack of equivalence due to randomization violations in experimental studies or problems with matching or statistical controls in quasi-experiments

e) Data Extraction. Both authors will extract data from the report using a specially designed instrument. Analyses will be conducted to determined rate of agreement between the two researchers and a meeting held to resolve any disagreements.

f) Outcome(s): Students enrolled, retained and graduated in K-12 school settings (university and college enrollment will not be included)

6. Roles and responsibilities (please give brief description of content and methodological expertise within the review team):

a) Content: Claire Morgan has her Masters in International Education and has worked on education projects in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Tonga Islands and other low-income settings.

b) Systematic review method: Anthony Petrosino has been working on reviews and meta-analyses for the past 20 years, largely in the justice field.

c) Information retrieval: Anthony Petrosino has a significant amount of experience in searching for experimental studies, particularly in his work for the Campbell Collaboration (and its earliest development of C2-SPECTR).

d) Statistical analysis (meta analysis): Anthony Petrosino has conducted several meta-analyses, including one of Scared Straight for the C2/Cochrane Collaboration (this used odds ratios) and larger meta-analyses of treatment effects (e.g., a paper with Haluk Soydan explored the effect sizes across 300 randomized controlled trials in criminological intervention to examine the role of the treatment providers in evaluation: they reported that ES is much larger when treatment providers are either the evaluators or are instrument in the evaluation).

Contact details of primary reviewer:

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7. **Approximate date for submission of DRAFT PROTOCOL** (please note this should be no longer than 6 months after title approval): March 15, 2009

8. **Approximate date for submission of DRAFT REVIEW** (please note this should be no longer than one year after title approval): June 30, 2009

When completed, please email to: Julia Lavenberg, Managing Editor
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