



2026 WINTER NEWSLETTER

A Note From Our Executive Director



Dear Partners and Collaborators,

I'm excited to share the continued momentum across our learning community. At the UC|CSU Collaborative, we are inspired by your commitment to inclusive, research-informed practice—and by a shared belief that when educators have the right tools, every learner benefits.

From literacy and dyslexia modules to strategies that elevate educator agency and student growth, our shared efforts connect neuroscience to real-world classroom practice. This progress is possible because of you—and together, we are turning research into action and advancing a more equitable future for California's learners.

Gratefully,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read "Alison Yoshimoto-Towery".

Alison Yoshimoto-Towery

FEATURED PARTNER

[The High Quality \(HQ\) IEPs Resource Lead Project](#) works collaboratively within the Statewide System of Support to increase the knowledge and engagement of families and students and build the capacity of support providers across school districts, county offices, and Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA) so that IEP design and development will result in educational benefit. Additionally, they provide technical assistance to districts identified by the California Department of Education as needing targeted assistance. Effective collaboration and use of High Leverage Practices (HLPs) allows for a range of expertise, knowledge, and perspectives. Implementing high-leverage practices will lead to improved IEP development, and result in IEPs designed to provide educational benefit.

Stay in the loop!

Subscribe to our newsletter to stay informed about the latest resources, strategies, and insights for supporting neurodiverse students.



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Upcoming Events

2026 Winter Webinar Series: Unlocking the High Quality IEP Toolkit: Essential Resources for Special Educators

February 26, 2026 | 3:30 to 4:30 pm PT

Want a comprehensive resource to support the development of high-quality Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)? The High Quality IEP Toolkit for Special Educators offers practical, free tools to strengthen each phase of the IEP process.

In this session, participants will take a guided tour of the toolkit and learn how to apply its supports to key components of a strong IEP, including assessment, present levels, measurable goals, and aligned services. Educators will leave with actionable strategies to create meaningful, individualized, student-centered IEPs.

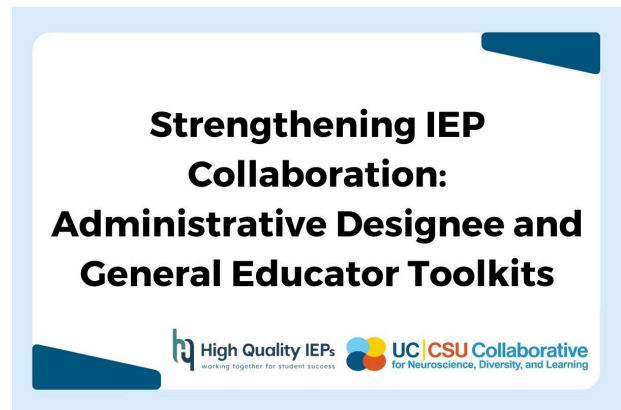


[Register Now!](#)

2026 Winter Webinar Series: Strengthening IEP Collaboration: Administrative Designee and General Educator Toolkits

March 26, 2026 | 3:30 to 4:30 pm PT

This session introduces two free resources designed to support effective IEP teamwork: the Administrative Designee Toolkit and the General Educator Toolkit. Participants will explore key tools that enhance preparation, collaboration, and decision-making throughout the IEP process. Attendees will leave with practical strategies to support compliant, student-centered meetings and meaningful general education input — empowering all team members to contribute confidently and effectively.



[Register Now!](#)

Featured Series: Core Components of Reading

[This comprehensive series](#) presents the essential components of early literacy development. Each course is thoughtfully designed to examine language and literacy development from multiple perspectives, focusing on effective, research-based teaching strategies. Leveraging current research with practical strategies, this series will help educators understand not just what to teach, but how to reach the diversity of learners in their classrooms.



[Introduction](#)

[Oral Language](#)

[Phonological Awareness](#)

[Decoding](#)

[Fluency](#)

[Vocabulary](#)

[Reading Comprehension](#)

[Spelling](#)

Increasing Our Reach

CSU Campus Liaisons, Led by [Kate Esposito](#), Our Faculty Director at CSU Dominguez Hills

Arraya is currently used across educator preparation programs statewide, with **more than 6,000 registered accounts** from faculty and students at both public and private institutions of higher education, including all UC and CSU campuses. Much of this growth is thanks to the incredible work of our first cohort of 10 CSU Campus Liaisons, who serve as vital connectors between their campuses and the UC|CSU Collaborative. These faculty integrate Arraya resources into coursework, share learning opportunities, and provide valuable insights that help shape UC|CSU Collaborative initiatives. We are excited to expand the Campus Liaison program for the 2026–2027 academic year to include additional campuses in collaboration with community college partners. The next call for applications opening in mid-February.

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“I have also appreciated the opportunity to connect with faculty from other CSUs. It has been valuable to hear how they are using these resources within their programs and universities, as well as in collaboration with their district and community partners.

DR. JODI ROBLEDO

Professor, California State University, San Marcos



Featured Video: How reading changes the way your brain works - BBC World Service



Reading may feel like something that comes naturally, but it's taken thousands of years for our brains to develop the capacity to do it.

That process has in turn transformed the brain's physiology. But reading on screens and smartphones could already be changing the way our brains work.

Drs. Maryanne Wolf, Co-Faculty Director of the Literacy/Dyslexia Team, and Rebecca Gotlieb, Assistant Researcher, Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners and Social Justice, UCLA, and the UC|CSU Collaborative, discuss how reading changes the way your brain works!

[Watch Video](#)

Partner Opportunities

Myths and Facts About Inclusive Education

Every Thursday from February 12 to March 12, 2026 | 3:30 to 4:30 pm PT

This series aims to debunk common misconceptions about inclusive education, learn valuable insights to support students with disabilities' access to and success



in general education settings. Sessions will feature resources co-developed with the TIES Center and CA Includes.

[Learn More](#)

Supporting Innovative Practices 5th Annual Virtual Conference

May 7-8, 2026 | 9 am to 2:30 pm PT

Supporting Innovative Practices celebrates their 5th annual Virtual Inclusion Conference, they come together to elevate the power of collaboration and intentional design in creating truly inclusive educational systems. Belonging doesn't happen by chance — it is created, nurtured, and sustained through thoughtful practices, shared leadership, and the voices of those most impacted.



[Register Now!](#)

In Case You Missed It: Watch Our 2025 Webinars!

UC|CSU Collaborative Spring 2025 Webinar Series

Spring 2025 Webinar Series

On the Education Horizon:
Bridging Policy, Research, and Practice

- Cradle-to-Career Data System
- Early Literacy Screening in California
- Recess for All: Promoting Social and Emotional Growth Through Evidence-Based Interventions

The Spring 2025 Webinar Series highlights key implementation strategies and opportunities on the education horizon and promotes strong collaboration across systems to support the diverse learning needs of students across California. This series is designed for those committed to shaping the future of education in California, including practitioners, educational leaders, educator preparation faculty, community-based support providers, policymakers, and funders. Together, we create opportunities for every learner.

[View Spring Webinar Series Here](#)

UC|CSU Collaborative Summer 2025 Webinar Series

Summer 2025 Webinar Series

Supporting Self-Regulation:
Developmentally Informed Tools for a Strong School Start

This Summer 2025 Webinar Series highlights the power of developmentally appropriate practices in fostering self-regulation—the foundation of students' learning, relationships, and well-being. Self-regulation skills, including managing attention, emotions, and behavior, develop over time and require intentional support through environments that are responsive to students.

[View Summer Webinar Series](#)

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UC|CSU Collaborative Fall 2025 Webinar Series

Fall 2025 Webinar Series

Building Literacy from the Start:
Implementing California's K-2 Early
Reading Screening Initiative



This Fall 2025 Webinar Series examines how educators, administrators, and partners can design coherent, equity-driven systems that connect early identification with effective instruction and multi-tiered supports. This series begins with an expanded view of foundational literacy and goes on to share resources to support students once screenings have been administered and how to meet individual needs.

[View Fall Webinar Series](#)

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