

**Improving Literacy Instruction in Middle and High Schools:
A Guide for Principals**

Description: This “quick start” guide identifies the major areas that need to be considered to create an effective academic literacy program in middle and high schools. The guide is based on scientific research on reading and reading instruction and on studies of successful schools and interviews with successful principals.

Information Level: novice/intermediate

Intended Audience for Internal Knowledge Development:

State: licensure, grants, professional development

District: planning, professional development

School: literacy plan, professional development

To expand RCC’s capacity, this activity or resource:	
Helps the RCC help states accomplish a goal or solve a problem.	This document can be used to create a coherent framework for developing literacy leader professional development within a state.
Helps the RCC help states improve or support an ongoing state program, policy, or practice.	It provides support for professional development activities already under way related to secondary school literacy and literacy leadership. It can be used to address changes in requirements or new endorsements for principals that reflect a strong literacy component.
Helps the RCC help states plan or initiate a new state program, policy, or practice.	It provides useful knowledge that can guide the development of grants that will fund secondary school literacy initiatives.
Helps RCC improve states’ ability to work with districts.	It can be easily disseminated by SEAs to LEAs and schools with suggestions for use.
Enables the RCC to carry out its work more effectively.	It provides clear research-based knowledge to deepen RCCs’ understanding in the area of secondary literacy and literacy leadership.

Accompanying/Related Materials:

- Adolescent Literacy resources: An Annotated Bibliography – Second Edition 2009
- Academic Literacy Instruction for Adolescents: A Guidance Document from the Center on Instruction
- Assessment to Guide Adolescent Literacy Instruction

Suggested Dissemination Strategies:

- Inform state DOEs of document and its purposes.
- Provide opportunity for follow up conference calls for questions and discussion of document and its potential uses internally at the DOE and with districts