Research questions

In partnership with K–12 districts and schools, Arizona State University's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College aims to understand how schools and districts are adopting Next Education Workforce models and how those models affect outcomes for both learners and educators. MLFTC's guiding research questions address efficacy, diversity, satisfaction, recruitment and retention for educators, and academic growth, skills, mindsets, disposition and social capital for learners.

Understanding of Next Education Workforce Models

The model
How are Next Education Workforce models implemented?

Transformation
How do schools and systems move from more traditional models to sustainable Next Education Workforce models?

Essential elements
Are particular elements of Next Education Workforce models more important at key transformational stages?

Educators

Efficacy
To what degree are educators in Next Education Workforce models effective?

Diversity
To what degree do Next Education Workforce models increase educator diversity relative to more traditional workforce models?

Satisfaction, recruitment and retention
To what degree do Next Education Workforce models improve educator job satisfaction and the ability to recruit and retain high-quality educators?

Students

Academic growth
To what degree do students in Next Education Workforce models grow academically?

Skills, mindsets, dispositions
To what degree do students in Next Education Workforce models grow more in skills, behaviors and mindsets associated with Building Blocks for Learning and non-academic outcomes (e.g., attendance, disciplinary referrals) than their peers in more traditional models?

Social capitol
To what degree do students in Next Education Workforce models have access to and the ability to mobilize a diverse network of relationships?

Many stakeholders have informed the creation and functional iterations of this research agenda. A subcommittee of MLFTC faculty and staff drives the formation of the high-level research questions, taking input from school systems leaders and school-based leaders. Specific researchers drive the formulation of aligned sub-research questions with input from stakeholders invested in the answers to those questions, including school leaders, educators, students and families.