



NC Collaboratory 2026 K12 Study Mandates

October 2026

[2026 Legislative Mandates](#)



[Collaboratory.unc.edu](https://collaboratory.unc.edu)



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The University
of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill



ABOUT US

Established in 2016 by the North Carolina General Assembly, the Collaboratory supports cross-sector research partnerships that seek to transform academic research into evidence-based solutions for environmental, health, and societal challenges faced by people in North Carolina.

**Codified as Article 31A of NCGS
116-255 and -256**

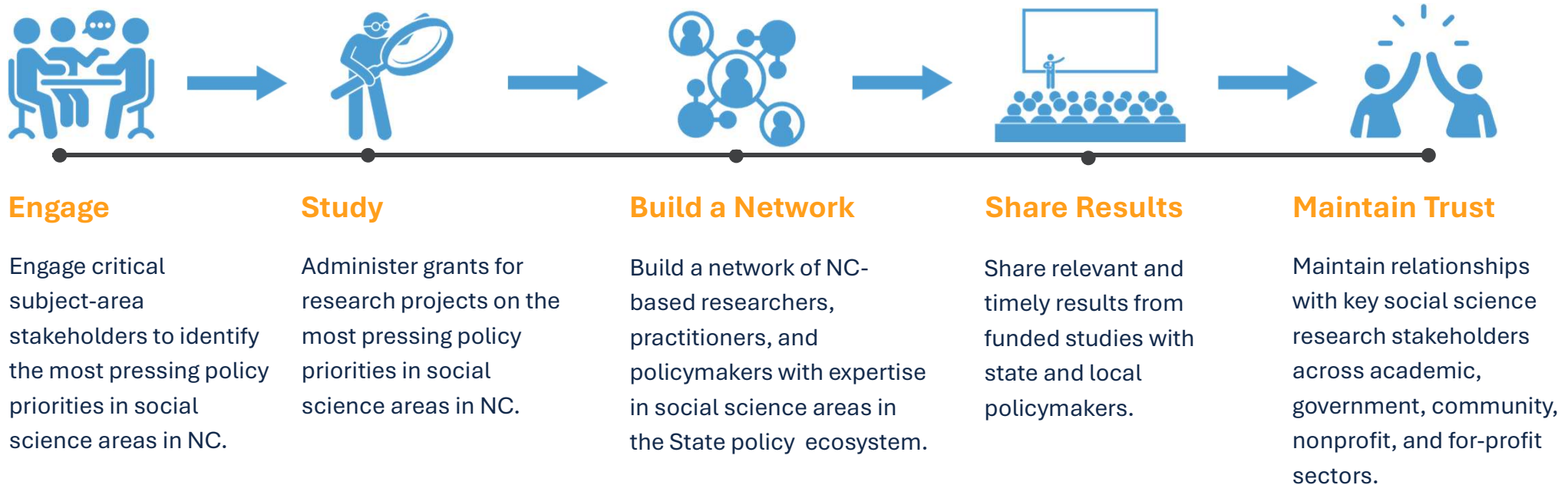


SOCIAL SCIENCE PORTFOLIO

Child Welfare, Criminal Justice,
Economic Development,
Education, Opioid Abatement,
Public Safety, State & Local
Government, Workforce



OUR APPROACH FOR FUNDING AND SUPPORTING SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH



OFFICE OF LEARNING RESEARCH (OLR)

16 projects
7 institutions
>\$1.45 million

SL 2024-57, [SECTION 2A.8.\(a-e\)](#)

The purpose of OLR is to identify and evaluate the efficacy and efficiency of programs, activities, initiatives, procedures, and any other factors related to elementary and secondary education in the State.

- Implementation and Impact of School Extension Programs in the Helene Recovery Process
- Principal Working Conditions Survey
- Smartphone Interactions and Learning Experiences
- Opportunity Scholarships
- Economic Evaluation of a Student Mental Health Program
- Teacher Retention in Rockingham County
- Teacher Retention Learning Agenda
- NC School Level Typology Development
- School Construction Databook
- NC Learning Research Network
- Schools for the Deaf and Blind (Four Projects)
- Landscape Analysis of AI Use in NC Schools
- Carolina Charter School Research Lab



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Duke



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

APPSTATE



NC Central
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF LEARNING RESEARCH (OLR)

15 *NEW* research study mandates in FY26-27

The 2026 Appropriations Act included 15 research study mandates for the Office of Learning Research.

Curriculum and Instruction

1. Secondary Literacy Professional Development Evaluation
2. Just Right Reader Pilot Program Evaluation
3. Evaluate New K-8 Math Requirements for Low Performing Schools
4. Identify Math Vendors for K-8
5. Pilot Study for K-12 Math Support Programs
6. Acquire, Adapt, and Implement K-8 Math Curriculum



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Evaluations of Innovations in Schools

1. Khan Academic Support Program Evaluation
2. Magic School Academic Support Program Evaluation
3. Evaluation of High School and Community College
4. Competency-Based Learning Programs (5 different programs)
5. Educational Wallet Pilot Program Evaluation



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Policy and Systems

1. Weighted Student Funding Formula
2. Work Group
3. Public Schools Open Enrollment Study
4. Renewal School System Evaluation
5. Framework for Evaluating AI Tools in Education



THANK YOU & QUESTIONS



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