

CBCSE Cost Tool Kit Development

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Sponsored by: Institute for Education Sciences (IES), U.S. Department of Education	Principal Investigator Henry Levin, Co-PI Fiona Hollands
Contract Type: Cooperative Agreement	Additional Researchers: Clive Belfield, Henan Cheng, Barbara Hanisch-Cerda
Contract amount: \$260,000	Contract Number: R305U120001
Objective of Project: <p>The purpose of this project is to augment and refine the CBCSE Cost Tool Kit alpha version, a set of resources developed by CBCSE in 2012-13. The Cost Tool Kit is designed to help administrators, evaluators and policymakers assess costs and cost-effectiveness of educational programs.</p> <p>The Cost Tool Kit is intended to improve capacity and increase the number of research and evaluation studies in education that include consistent and comparable cost analyses. It will also help education decision-makers and policymakers in making decisions about how to allocate resources among alternative programs.</p>	
Methods: <p>The project will involve collaborating with computer programmers to create a user-friendly version of the Cost Tool Kit with enhanced features. In addition, a variety of support materials will be developed such as online tutorials. The current Database of Educational Resource Prices will be updated and expanded by searching publicly available national databases, and additional price indices will be sought.</p>	
Resulting products: <p>The end products of this project will be a beta version of the Cost Tool Kit with associated support materials and examples of its application. These will constitute a set of resources for use by other researchers and by education decision-makers or policymakers to facilitate the calculation of cost and cost-effectiveness metrics for educational programs.</p>	