



Colorado Center for Rural Education
Commitment to Convening, Connecting, and Capacity Building

The Colorado Center for Rural Education (CCRE) is focused on the location, preparation, and support of educators for all rural and small rural school districts across the state of Colorado through a commitment to convening, connecting, and capacity building. The Colorado Center for Rural Education recognizes the importance of qualified educators to ensure quality educational experiences and outcomes for all learners being educated in rural Colorado school districts. Qualified educators refer to professional educators serving in positions as teachers, principals, administrators, and specialized instructional service providers.

The CCRE is involved in **convening** appropriate stakeholder groups and individuals on a regular basis to explore the underlying challenges associated with recruiting, preparing, and retaining highly effective educators for rural Colorado schools.

CCRE staff members are engaged in **connecting** representatives of rural education organizations with overlapping interests to examine unmet needs, identify potential strategies for meeting identified needs, determine strategic action plans to accomplish the identified strategies, and formulate plans for sustainability of the strategic plans.

The CCRE staff members collaborate with organizations and individuals concerned with the development of a comprehensive system of personnel development for Colorado's rural and small rural school districts through **capacity building** efforts to ensure that educator preparation programs, rural school districts, and other organizations focused on rural education expand their impact and effectiveness in successfully accomplishing their stated missions.

All students in rural Colorado communities deserve access to professional educators who are effective and qualified in their areas of assignment. The commitment to convening, connecting, and capacity building provides an overarching strategy for achieving this vision of success for learners and educators in all rural Colorado schools.