Open Tools:
Evaluation with the Rapid Cycle Evaluation (RCE) Coach

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WHAT IS THIS SESSION ALL ABOUT?
Would you like to know what works faster? This session will introduce rapid cycle evaluation (RCE), a powerful, fast method for testing which education interventions are effective and should be adopted or discontinued at scale. Presenters will share lessons-learned from two school districts’ implementation of RCEs.

Attendees will also participate in a hands-on exercise conducting a simple RCE using the free RCE Coach toolkit, which supports agencies at all stages of the RCE process and allows users to publicly share evaluation results.

WHAT WILL I LEARN IN THIS SESSION?
In this session, you will be able to define what rapid cycle evaluation is and how it differs from other types of evaluation. You will hear about the Rapid Cycle Evaluation Coach as a tool for conducting rapid cycle evaluation, and gain experience conducting a simple rapid cycle evaluation from start to finish.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS SESSION?
This session is ideal for anyone who is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of education interventions or who needs evidence of effectiveness to decide whether to adopt or continue using an intervention. The RCE Coach is intended for people with minimal background in evaluation, so there are no skill prerequisites for the session.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE FOR THIS SESSION?
Please complete the following readings before the session. This should take under 15 minutes.
1. Rapid Cycle Evaluation for Educators: A Primer on RCEs in the Race to the Top–District Program
2. Rapid Cycle Evaluation for Educators: Improving Student Outcomes through Rapid Cycle Evaluation

Continued…
You have the option to bring your own data to work on in this session. If you choose to take advantage of this option, please prepare your data for analysis by following this guide.

This session features a technical component; you should bring a laptop and a charger with you.