8 Key Principles of **Successful Tutoring Programs**

When students experience learning interruptions, tutoring programs can help get them back on track. But running a successful tutoring program requires careful planning and research. Before you get started, review these eight research-based principles that can help make your tutoring program more effective.

Community **engagement**

Build your program *with* the community, not *for* them. Everyone benefits when staff, volunteers, teachers, students, parents, and community members see each other as partners in the work.

Student, family, and community **voice**

Your program will support and engage students more effectively if you give students, their families, and community members a voice in decision-making.

Focus on **equity and cultural responsiveness**

Students of different races, ethnicities, cultures, languages, and other backgrounds have different experiences, strengths, and needs. Ground your program design, practices, and staff/volunteer training in equity so that every student has the support they need to thrive.

Clear, measurable **objectives**

Early on, establish outcomes and objectives for your program and who you plan to serve. These will guide planning and implementation and help you define and measure success.

Evidence-based **practices**

Use practices that are grounded in the best available research in learning sciences, child development, tutoring, and family and community engagement.

Compliance with **child care and safety standards**

Federal, state, and local regulations help keep students safe and improve the quality of tutoring services provided by staff and volunteers.

Effective **volunteer training and management**

Volunteers can be important partners and strong advocates for your work, but they need training and support to tutor students effectively, contribute to program goals, and remain invested over time.

Sustainability **planning**

Plans for sustainability will help your program run smoothly over time. Consider creating and supporting an advisory committee, building staff capacity, establishing volunteer recruitment and training plans, and planning for continuous improvement.

NEED MORE SUPPORT?

Our team of experienced practitioners and researchers can support you in any stage of your tutoring program: design, implementation, or evaluation.

Learn how we can help: https://educationnorthwest.org/tutoring-program-development