

State Farm® Involvement in Education

- State Farm is consistently recognized as a leading business supporting education improvement due in great part to the national leadership of its Chairman and CEO, Ed Rust Jr. Rust has been involved in business/education work for the last two decades. He continues to lead the business community through his personal commitment of time and the commitment of company resources – human and financial – to improving schools so that every child has a quality education that prepares them to compete in a global society.
- State Farm works with partnering education and non-profit organizations focused on a measurable deliverable of improved student achievement.
- State Farm focuses on education around three key areas: service-learning, teacher quality and systemic improvement.
 - Service-learning is an innovative teaching method combining service to the community with classroom curriculum. State Farm partners with key national organizations – Youth Service America, National Service-Learning Partnership, National Youth Leadership Council and the National Center for Learning and Citizenship at the Education Commission of the States to help create opportunities for students to apply what they are learning in the classroom to issues that impact their communities.
 - State Farm’s investment in teacher quality support is focused around key partnerships including the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) to recognize the key roles teachers play in improved student achievement.
 - Systemic improvement funding is focused on national strategies that impact systems of education. An example is State Farm’s continued support for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (“No Child Left Behind”). State Farm views NCLB as one of the critical tools needed to transform U.S. education so that all students graduate academically prepared for college, citizenship and the 21st century workplace. NCLB includes a focus on disaggregated data that allows schools to clearly see the achievement of subgroups of students and make it easier to then direct services to those students. NCLB has helped bolster accountability and flexibility in America’s public schools and is one of the essential components for the long-term success of American businesses because it provides a strong foundation for the lifelong learning that is critical to America’s competitiveness in the global economy.

Key National Education Partner Organizations

Business Roundtable (Rust co-chairs and is past chair of the education task force.)

U.S. Chamber of Commerce (State Farm supports through the Institute for a Competitive Workforce and the Education, Employment and Training Committee (EETC).

Business Coalition for Student Achievement (Rust co-chairs)

The James B. Hunt Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy (Rust is a Director)

Achieve Inc. (Rust is a Director)

America’s Promise Alliance (Rust is a Director)

Business Higher-Education Forum (Rust is past chair)

The National Youth Leadership Council

Youth Service America

The National Service-Learning Partnership

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (Rust chairs the President’s Roundtable)

Committee for Economic Development (Rust is a Trustee)

The National Council for Economic Education

National Center for Learning and Citizenship at the Education Commission of the States

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