



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**iNACOL to Host September 12 Webinar on New Studies on  
Competency-Based Learning in K-12 Education**

VIENNA, Va., September 6 – The International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL) will host a webinar on Monday, September 12 at 2 pm ET on how policymakers and educators can accelerate the transformation of the nation’s K-12 educational system through competency-based models of learning that emphasize student learning through subject mastery over seat-time credit.

The webinar, hosted by iNACOL president and CEO Susan Patrick, Chris Sturgis of MetisNet and Linda Pittenger of the Council of Chief State School Officers, will provide an overview of the latest research on the policy structures and revisions needed to implement competency-based models in K-12 education. The research was published in July by iNACOL in two new reports: “Cracking the Code: Synchronizing Policy and Practice for Performance-Based Learning,” and “It’s Not a Matter of Time: Highlights from the 2011 Competency-Based Learning Summit.”

“Competency-based learning represents a vital change in current methods of instruction and measurement,” said Patrick. “The hallmarks of this approach include allowing for personalized instruction, immediate response to intervention, student advancement based on demonstrated mastery and awarding credits based upon competencies. Unfortunately, many states and school districts are still handcuffed by rigid seat-time regulations that prevent them from moving toward this revolutionary, student-centric approach.”

The webinar will build understanding of competency-based learning models, provide examples of policy and practice, and share recommendations and practical guidance on how states can encourage “enabling policies” that allow for competency-based approaches. The free webinar is sponsored by iNACOL, MetisNet, CCSSO and philanthropic partners.

**WHO:** Susan Patrick, iNACOL; Chris Sturgis, MetisNet; and  
Linda Pittenger, CCSSO

**WHAT:** “Competency-based Learning: Highlights of Promising Practices and Policy Frameworks,” a free iNACOL webinar

**WHEN:** Monday, September 12, 2011, at 2:00 PM ET

**REGISTER:** At the iNACOL website (<http://www.inacol.org/events/webinar/free.php>)  
*Registration closes at 10 am ET on September 12.*

**About iNACOL**

iNACOL is the International Association for K-12 Online Learning, a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership association based in the Washington, DC area with more than 3,800 members. iNACOL is unique in that its members represent a diverse cross-section of K-12 education from school districts, charter schools, state education agencies, non-profit organizations, colleges, universities and research institutions, corporate entities and other content and technology providers ([www.inacol.org](http://www.inacol.org)). iNACOL hosts the annual Virtual School Symposium (VSS). VSS 2011 is being held Nov. 9 - 11, 2011 in Indianapolis, IN ([www.virtualschoolsymposium.org](http://www.virtualschoolsymposium.org)).