

The **Kansas Infinitec Coalition (KIC)** reflects an enduring partnership of more than 10 years between the **Kansas State Department of Education** and UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago. Through this partnership, KIC supports a cadre of professionals who provide assistance to districts across Kansas on the consideration and use of instructional and assistive technologies (AT). Kansas Infinitec is committed to expanding the skills of the local AT Team to address the AT needs of all students with disabilities in order to improve students' outcomes.



LOCAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During the 2017-18 school year, the Cadre included 21 members, representing 11 districts and nine educational cooperatives or service centers throughout all regions of the state. The majority of the 2017-18 Cadre members served multiple roles: 33% identified themselves as occupational therapists or speech language pathologists, 29% as AT consultants, 19% as special education teachers, 14% as teachers of students with sensory impairments; 14% as administrators, and 19% had a variety of other professional expertise.

The Cadre members provided 190 local professional development sessions throughout all regions of the state. These events reached 3,953 participants across 74 public school districts.

IN 2017-18 THE INFINITEC CADRE PROVIDED

190 Professional
Development
Sessions
ACROSS KANSAS

The content for these sessions addressed a wide range of topics such as the AT Consideration process, the adaptive assessment process, technology tools for reading and writing, de-escalation strategies, special education law, and mathematics adaptations. All the presenters provided additional follow-up for the participants such as on-site coaching and access to additional resources or professional development sessions. As a testament to the dedication of Cadre members, 23% have been part of the Cadre for a decade while 59% have been Cadre members for five or more years.

"AT gave my student a 'voice.' Once he was proficient at using his device, he was able to express wants and needs, discomfort, talk with his peers, and even argue with staff. He was also able to better tell /show staff what he knows when asked academic questions."

REGIONAL & STATEWIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Infinitec provided 19 regional and statewide professional development events in Kansas, both online and face-to-face, with 504 participants, including an annual two-day Summer Institute for Cadre members, an annual statewide AT conference, and three in-depth, multi-session online courses. Participants left the workshops with the tools to transfer their learning into practice. During the 2017-18 school year, 348 participants responded to items on a post-training evaluation survey.

EVALUATION RESULTS FROM 348 PARTICIPANTS

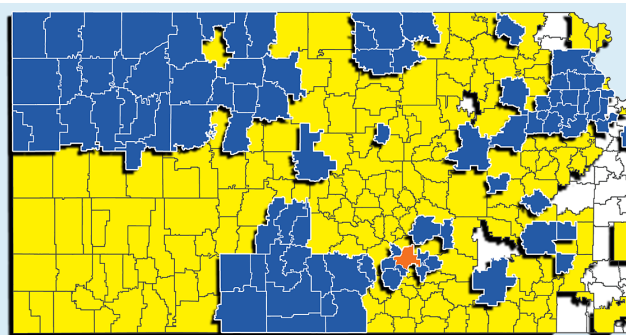
Average Ratings (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree)

	1	2	3	4	5
I understand how the content/practice is intended to improve outcomes for children and youth.					4.42
I left the training with tools or functional methods to transfer my learning to practice.					4.30
I will use the content or implement the practice(s) from this training.					4.33
Overall, the training was of high quality.					4.39

Nine of these events were observed by a member of the TASN Evaluation team. Trainers met 90% of indicators regarding high-quality professional development, including 100% of the indicators in the Demonstration domain and 92% of the indicators in the Engagement domain.

SUPPORTING EDUCATORS

KANSAS SCHOOL DISTRICTS IMPACTED



● SUBSCRIPTION ONLY ● TRAINING ONLY ● BOTH TRAINING AND SUBSCRIPTION

The 254 districts with subscriptions to Infinitec access on-demand online professional development, curriculum supports, and professional learning opportunities. In addition, all districts in Kansas have access to InfiTEXT, a continuously expanding repository of digital materials to support students with

IN THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

InfiTEXT ADDED

36,000
pages of digital text

print disabilities. Through an agreement with KSDE, this repository is available to students in any Kansas school and currently houses more than 48,000 files and more than 3,000 complete textbooks/novels. During the 2017-18 school year, this repository increased by 36,000 pages, including 31 complete textbooks and 47 novels. Kansas teachers may request books or chapters of books, which InfiTEXT will scan and add to the repository any time throughout the school year.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH ASSISTIVE TECH

Kansas Infinitec guided districts in shifting the role of local AT teams from service delivery to consulting; 115 Kansas educators participated in day-long sessions titled AT Consideration: Moving Beyond a Checkbox and 49 were also involved in the semester-long online course *The Changing Role of AT Teams*. Ninety-six participants analyzed their process using the *Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology*, identifying both strengths of their system and areas for improvement.

When AT is fully considered, the positive impact on students is evident.

When asked to explain the impact of AT on an individual student, 83 respondents specifically noted the following outcomes for students:

- 79% improved communication
- 36% increased access to the curriculum and instruction
- 11% improved in behavior

"We are a new AT team and [The Changing Role of AT Teams online course] was totally invaluable to us. It helped to guide us and make us think about what our processes should be and how we want to set things up."