

# San Diego County Improving Chronic Absence Network Cohort 2

*Ensure every student attends school today and achieves tomorrow*

## Why Chronic Absence?

Pre-pandemic, one out of every 10 students in San Diego County missed 15 school days or more every year. The 57,000 San Diego County students who are chronically absent are disproportionately students of color and students from vulnerable populations, such as foster youth, students experiencing homelessness, socioeconomically disadvantaged, and students with disabilities. Consistent attendance data is missing for the past two school years but estimates suggest that student absences and lack of participation have significantly increased.

## What is ICAN?

The San Diego County Improving Chronic Absence Network (ICAN) aims to address the enormous challenge of improving chronic school absence by helping schools implement small, targeted changes that are proven to get results.

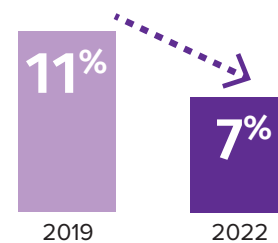
## The Work

ICAN combines subject matter experts in student attendance with improvement advisors and connects them with practitioners who can test and implement changes on the front lines.

School teams of three to five people commit to a 10-month program, participating in a kickoff webinar and attending learning sessions to learn about issues affecting chronic absenteeism and proven attendance strategies. Teams then adapt and test out these strategies at their sites during three action periods (AP). The network concludes with a final convening for the teams to celebrate, share their learning, and develop plans to sustain these efforts.

## The Goal of ICAN

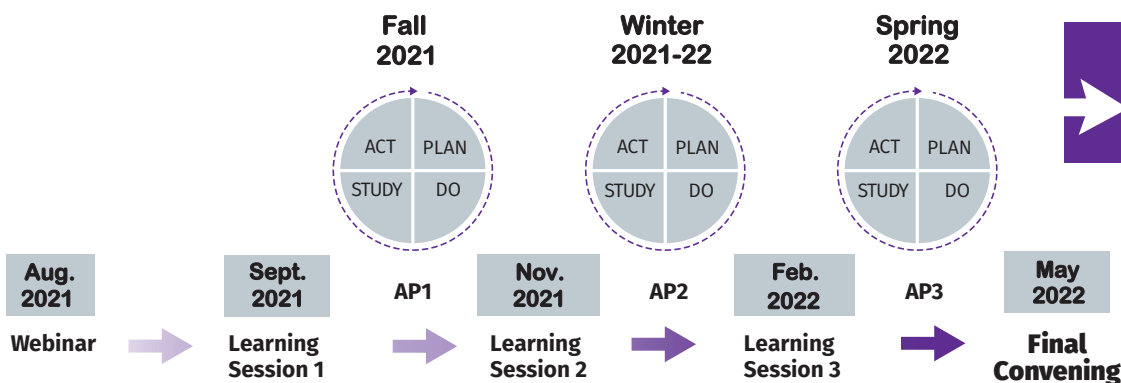
**Reduce countywide chronic absence rate from 11% to 7% by 2022.**



## An Enormous Challenge

COVID-19 upended much of the K-12 school system, creating tons of uncertainty. Yet one fact remains abundantly clear -- attendance matters. Whether in person or online, if students don't "show-up," their academic success is negatively impacted.

In 2021-22 schools face huge challenges in their efforts to re-engage all students and increase and sustain high levels of attendance and participation. Join ICAN to engage in collective action and learning to get real improvement.



**Get Started Today**  
<http://bit.ly/sdcoe-ican>