

Media Literacy & Digital Citizenship Ambassadors Pilot Program 2022-23

Who is this pilot program for?

- Washington State K-12 teachers and teacher-librarians who want to build their skills in the area of integrating Media Literacy & Digital Citizenship instruction into curriculum
 - Any level of experience—only requirement is enthusiasm for the work!
 - Pilot program is open to educators from public, charter, and tribal schools
 - This is an opportunity to build leadership skills and become agents of change

Why this pilot program?

The goal is to strengthen educators' abilities to support students dealing with issues they're already facing. Students are already encountering negative behavior when they use school technology to interact with others. They're already encountering misinformation when they work on research projects. They're already looking for ways to make their voices heard in the new digital landscape. Educators have been needing the tools to help their students meet these challenges for a while.

What is Media Literacy? What is Digital Citizenship? For the purposes of this pilot program (definitions may vary from organization to organization):

- Media Literacy is *the ability to think critically about the messages being consumed & created through a variety of forms of communication*
- Digital Citizenship is *the ability to communicate with others online in ways that are safe, responsible, ethical & kind*

What will Ambassadors receive?

- 12 - 30 hours of free professional development
- Free clock hours & other perks
- A selection of Modules from which to choose (minimum of 2, maximum of 8), each focused on a specific problem of practice such as:
 - Figuring out where to start when there are so many options, so little time
 - Encouraging healthy skepticism in students who have become cynical
 - Bridging the teacher/librarian divide



What will be required of Ambassadors?

- Commit to at least 12 hours of pilot program participation during 2022-23 school year
 - Outside of school hours: either evenings or weekends, to be determined by group
 - Synchronous sessions via Zoom
- Of those minimum 12 hours, 6 will be spent on introductions, nuts & bolts, defining the work at the beginning; plus wrapping up, providing feedback at the end. The other 6+ hours (4+ synchronous, 2+ asynchronous) will be spent working on chosen Modules.
- Each 3-hour Module will consist of:
 - 1-hour synchronous session with guest presenters/panelists proposing solutions
 - 1-hour synchronous PLC session with mentor & peers (elementary or secondary, teacher or librarian) to debrief new learning in context of specific role
 - 1-hour asynchronous work on Action Portfolio: processing new learning from sessions; planning how to implement it; reflecting on challenges & successes
- Take new learning and strengthened leadership skills back to school/district and apply it in some way. *How* it's applied can be determined by Ambassadors based on best fit for their learning community and their role within it. For example, Ambassadors might model Media Literacy & Digital Citizenship instruction in their classes or lead professional development or PLCs in their schools/districts.

Optional opportunities

Participants will be invited to stay involved as Emeritus in future years so they can:

- Go through any new Modules or Modules missed during previous years
- Continue adding to their Action Portfolio
- Support new members of the program in their learning

Next steps

- September 2022: To be considered for pilot program cohort, educators can begin submitting "request for consideration"
- November 2022: Decisions re: pilot program cohort will be made
- December 2022-April 2023: Synchronous sessions & asynchronous work on Action Portfolio happen; try out new learning in classrooms
- May-June 2023: Complete work, wrap up, provide feedback

Want to stay in the loop? Complete the [Interest Survey](#)

Save the date or go ahead and register for an info session:

[Saturday, August 20, 4:00-4:30 pm](#) OR [Wednesday, August 24, 4:00-4:30 pm](#)

Questions? Contact OSPI Media Literacy & Digital Citizenship Program Supervisor, Lesley James, lesley.james@k12.wa.us