**High-Quality Curriculum– Summer Planning Grants**

**Path 4: High-Quality Instruction through Service-Learning**

**Additional Information for Applicants**

Applicants for Path 4 should consider the following.

**Service-Learning** (SL) is a teaching and learning methodology that engages students in identifying, researching, proposing and implementing solutions to real needs and problems in their school or community as part of their curriculum.

High quality service-learning can increase the likelihood that students will: have a deeper understanding of academic/curricular knowledge/skills; develop social and emotional competencies; have true youth voice and engagement; and develop civic knowledge, dispositions and skills.

Funded applicants will identify a team to engage in professional development (PD), coaching, unit writing and implementation of high-quality service-learning. Teams will identify existing curriculum units and instructional materials with which they will integrate service-learning. Specific goals for teams participating in this grant are to:

* Develop or adapt high-quality instructional materials into service-learning units, based on [service-learning standards for high quality practice](https://nylc.org/standards/), which can be replicated and or adapted by other teachers in the district.
* Better understand and implement social-emotional learning (SEL) practices, as well as teach social and emotional skills and competencies using SL.
* Identify and plan for intentional English language arts, mathematics and/or science, technology, engineering (STE) learning goals and outcomes using SL.
* Where possible, build multi-disciplinary units that are based on contemporary topics/problems, perhaps from the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for Health, Social Sciences or Science/Technology/Engineering

Teams are required to:

* Participate in Department-provided 2-day Service-Learning Getting Started - Implementation and Planning PD (currently scheduled for March 28th / 29th, June 5th / 6th, and June 27th / 28th), which introduces participants to the [KIDS Model of Service-Learning](http://harkinsconsultingllc.com/about-us/kids-model-overview/)
* Participate in a Path 4 Kickoff Webinar to hear about available optional Department and partner support, as well as to share and get feedback on team plans for local planning and development
* Utilize the summer to convene teacher teams, identify opportunities for incorporating service-learning and writing/adapting curriculum units
* Implement service-learning units during school year 2018-2019
* Measure outcomes related to both planning/unit development, as well as student outcomes.

Optional supports and resources:

* The Department will engage with [Harkins Consulting](http://harkinsconsultingllc.com/) to provide coaching to awarded grantees upon request, on a limited basis. The Department encourages applicants to consider allocating resources from this grant to support additional professional development and coaching, as needed, on high-quality service-learning and the integration of SEL.
* Based on grantee feedback, the Department may help coordinate additional fee-for service professional development on service-learning unit planning, explicit teaching of social and emotional competencies throughout service-learning, as well as other topics identified.
* Over the last several years, the Department has supported school/district teams and their partners to develop service-learning curriculum units to prevent summer learning loss. A list of those curricula can be found here. Upon request, the Department will provide these to grantees as examples.