Recruitment for the Evaluation of the Expository Reading and Writing Curriculum

Register your California or Washington school district’s high school(s) to receive teacher professional learning at no cost for an evidence-based English language arts curriculum designed to prepare students to meet the demands of college-level coursework.

WestEd, in collaboration with the California State University (CSU), the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, is recruiting California and Washington high schools to participate in a federally funded Investing in Innovation (i3) grant that will examine the impact of the Expository Reading and Writing Curriculum (ERWC).

About ERWC

- Emphasizes the in-depth study of analytical and argumentative reading and writing, including informational and literary texts and rhetorical analysis
- Found to have positive impacts on students’ English language arts (ELA) achievement in grade 12 through a previous i3 grant
- Will be developed and evaluated as an ELA curriculum in grade 11
- Will be updated and evaluated as an ELA curriculum in grade 12
- Will address all of the Common Core State Standards for ELA in grades 11–12
Teacher Participation, by Grade Level and Time Frame*

- 11th grade non-ERWC teachers: 2019–20 [evaluation]
- 12th grade non-ERWC teachers: 2020–21 [evaluation]

Stipends

- Districts: $5,000 total
- Schools: $20,000 total
- Teachers who teach the ERWC during pilot years: $500
- Teachers who teach the ERWC during evaluation years: $2,000
- Teachers who teach the non-ERWC during evaluation years: $1,000

Benefits to Participation

- Costs will be covered for teacher professional learning, which includes: summer workshop sessions, coaching sessions, and community of practice meetings. The professional learning will advance teachers’ understanding of the ERWC, and coaches will be provided throughout the school year to support teachers as they implement the curriculum.
- The newly developed and revised ERWC materials will be provided to teachers free of charge.
- Teachers can provide input on the development and modification of the curriculum through their piloting of it.

Requirements for School Participation

- Have a minimum enrollment of 1,000 students
- Be willing to implement the ERWC in grades 11 and 12
- Be willing to work with WestEd to randomly assign students who wish to enroll in “English 11” to either the ERWC or the English curriculum that is typically offered at the school in grade 11 in the 2019-20 school year
  - Students who wish to enroll in AP, IB, or ELD English courses will not be randomized or included in the study.
  - Parents/students cannot opt out of the randomization process.
- Be willing to administer the following assessments:
  - A one-period English assessment to grade 11 students at the beginning of the 2019–20 school year
  - The Smarter Balanced ELA/literacy summative assessment to grade 11 students at the end of the 2019–20 school year
  - A two-period English assessment to grade 12 students at the end of the 2020–21 school year

>>> To apply or to learn more about the ERWC project, please contact Anne Keicher at 510-302-4207 or akeiche@WestEd.org <<<