



Call for Math or English Language Arts Content Developers in any grade span (K-12)

MAY 24, 2018

About Us

The [English Learners Success Forum](#) (ELSF) is passionate about improving the quality and accessibility of instructional materials for English learners (ELs) in grades K-12. Together with field-leading researchers, district leaders, teachers, content developers, and education funders, we work to improve the quality and supply of K-12 instructional materials to ensure maximum effectiveness for ELs.

Our dream is for students classified as ELs to experience schools that recognize their educational needs, value the cultural and linguistic assets they bring, and provide them the environment in which to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically. We believe quality teaching paired with effective instructional guidance is critical to the academic success of ELs.

Why This Work is Important

Several research studies conclude that high-quality curricula have a substantial impact on student achievement. With more than half of U.S. public school teachers with at least one EL student in their classroom and those numbers only expected to increase, ELSF believes all ELA and math teachers must have access to quality materials that are inclusive of the needs of EL students. This goes beyond adding simple EL strategies that are often focused on vocabulary or providing visuals but ensuring ELs have access to coherent language support throughout a unit or across a curriculum. By leveraging the expertise of experienced EL practitioners and scholars and utilizing research-informed guidance, ELSF aspires to partner with organizations that believe that ELs deserve the same access to grade-level content and want to work collaboratively with us to learn how best to do this with their materials.

Call for Content Developers

ELSF is seeking Content Developers from the nonprofit or Open Education Resource (OER) sector who have developed or are developing instructional materials (either print or digital) for K-12 students in English Language Arts (ELA) or Math and are interested in strengthening these materials to ensure they support ELs in accessing grade-level content and meeting college- and career-ready (CCR) standards. **Deadline to apply is June 18, 2018.**

What the Work Entails and Relevant Dates

Content Developers selected to participate will submit their own curricular materials to engage in a 6-12-month materials review process beginning in Fall of 2018. Through the review and feedback cycles, the Review Team consisting of an EL Scholar, two EL Expert Reviewers, and an EL Coach will provide Content Developers with feedback on how their specific instructional materials can be improved to be more inclusive of ELs. Through collaborative discussion, Content Developers will commit to implementing those improvements and have access to the EL Coach throughout the revision process.

To kick off the materials review process, selected Content Developers and ELSF Review Teams will attend an in-person meeting on July 26-27 in Chicago, IL to learn directly from EL experts on the most recent research on EL learning, to understand ELSF's theory of action and approach, and begin planning out the subsequent months of materials reviews. Selected Content Developers are required to send at their own expense two to four instructional designers from their team. This meeting will not only serve as an opportunity to learn directly from esteemed EL experts and practitioners on how core ELA and mathematics curricula must be inclusive of the needs of ELs, but also permit Content Developer and Review Teams to meet, gain an understanding of the materials to be reviewed, and establish a plan of action for the remaining partnership.

The Benefits to Content Developers

This is an unprecedented opportunity for Content Developers to learn and grow in their understanding of the unique needs of ELs and engage in conversations with experienced EL experts who will provide guidance and feedback on how to improve instructional materials to more adequately meet the needs of ELs. Specifically, Content Developers will:

- Gain access to a theory of action for designing high-quality simultaneous language and content instruction for ELs;
- Receive specific, usable, and research-informed feedback on their instructional materials by a team of reviewers with years of experience in the EL field;
- Benefit from access to expert coaching during a process of review and revision;
- Contribute to a field-leading approach that integrates effective EL practices into core instructional materials; and
- Showcase improved materials to the field at large, including teachers, schools, district and other developers of content.

Eligibility Criteria:

- ELSF is seeking Math and ELA Content Developers from the nonprofit or open education resource (OER) sectors.
- Content Developers must commit at least 1 staff person who is an instructional designer, that will be the lead contact for the EL Review Team throughout the materials review process. In addition, the Content Developer must be able to send at least two (up to four) instructional designers to a face-to-face training on July 26-27 in Chicago, IL.
- Content Developers must be willing and have the capacity to: 1) engage in the full review cycle (length to be determined by both parties in the selection process based on need); 2) meet virtually with coaches at regular and predetermined intervals to improve curricular supports for ELs; and 3) devote time between meetings to incorporate feedback in a timely manner. Estimated time of commitment will be a minimum of 10 hours per month.
- Content Developers must sign a Memorandum of Understanding which commits them to improving their materials according to feedback provided by ELSF Review Teams over the course

of the partnership. Additionally, ELSF will share an impact statement with each Content Developer at the end of the review process outlining a summary of improvements made and suggestions from the EL Review Team on how materials can be further improved for greater impact.

- Content Developers must allow ELSF to publicly display selected examples of improvements to their instructional materials (following acceptable use protocols) as jointly determined by the Content Developer and ELSF.
- Content Developers should show willingness to partner in data collection to study efficacy of ELSF guidelines.

Submitted Curricula Must:

- Align to CCR standards as indicated by EdReports.org ratings, the Instructional Materials Evaluation Toolkit, or another alignment review process grounded in CCR standards, or, if in the early stages of development, strive to align with CCR standards and indicate commitment to go through an alignment review process.
- Aim to serve the general student population enrolled in K-12 education classrooms.
- Consist of a year's worth of instructional materials in math or ELA in any grade.

[Register here](#) for one of our informational webinars on May 31st at 11am PST/2pm EST or June 13th at 1pm PST/4pm EST, after which you will receive an application.

Questions? Please email opportunities@elsuccessforum.org.