LAP Definition of Professional Learning

Professional learning (PL) is most effective when it is targeted, content-specific, and applicable to skills and strategies that improve student outcomes and school performance. Targeted professional learning opportunities should align with learning standards, instructional strategies, or data-informed decision-making. They must also align with the needs of LAP-served students.

The focus of LAP-funded targeted professional learning should include instructional strategies, pedagogy, and content that will support students not yet meeting grade-level standards. Districts can use professional learning opportunities that benefit all students if the intent is to specifically target supporting the needs of LAP-served students.

Professional Learning Activities

Use the definitions below to describe your school’s professional learning activities for LAP reporting in EDS. Please note, you will need to indicate the content area that the professional learning activity was aimed at improving. If you are unsure of how to do so, please contact the LAP team for support.

- **Coaching/Consulting**: Coaches or mentors partner with teachers to develop effective instructional strategies for LAP-served students.
- **Conference Attendance**: PL provided by an outside organization on a variety of topics related to learners not yet meeting grade-level standards. The conference topic(s) must be relevant to the needs and services of LAP-served students for this to be a LAP-allowable activity.
- **Cultural Competency**: Professional learning targeted at increasing cultural competency: including knowledge of student cultural histories and context, as well as family norms and values in different cultures; knowledge and skills in accessing community resources for community and family outreach; and/or skills in adapting instruction to students’ experiences and identifying cultural contexts for individual students.
- **Data-Driven Professional Learning**: Targeted at the applied use of student data to identify student academic needs and the delivery of LAP services.
- **General Professional Learning**: Focuses on enhancing educator effectiveness but lacks the focus and intent of supporting students not yet meeting grade-level standards.
- **Induction Programs**: Orientation for new staff on their roles and responsibilities in assisting learners not yet meeting grade-level standards through LAP services.
- **Mentoring**: Mentors partner with educators to help them develop effective strategies to improve learning for LAP-served students.
- **Professional Learning Communities (PLC)**: A group of teachers, administrators, coaches, and/or school staff that meet on a regular basis with the goal of improving practices in the classroom and school to improve student learning outcomes. PLC time funded by LAP must be focused on the needs and services of LAP-served students.
- **Targeted Professional Learning**: Focuses on enhancing educator effectiveness with the explicit intent and purpose of supporting students not yet meeting grade-level standards.

Professional Learning Resources

- LAP Guidance for Reporting
- ELA Menu
- Math Menu
- Behavior Menu

Professional Learning Questions in EDS

- We had one or more education professionals participate in professional learning this year funded by LAP.
- We had no education professionals participate in professional learning this year funded by LAP.

How many education professionals participated in professional learning funded by LAP?  

Select all professional learning formats in ELA, mathematics, and/or behavior that apply:

- Coaching/Consulting
- Conference Attendance
- Cultural Competency
- Data-Driven Professional Learning (e.g. data coaching)
- General Professional Learning
- Induction Programs
- Mentoring
- Professional Learning Community
- Targeted Professional Learning

Have Questions? Need Help?

Call the LAP Office  
(360) 725-6100

Email the LAP Office  
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