



WHY SHOULD ISTA DISTRICT COUNCILS PARTICIPATE IN ELI?

The Early Leadership Institute (ELI) offers District Councils and local associations an opportunity to connect and engage new and early career educators. The program not only builds more engaged members but cultivates future association leaders. ELI fellows have gone on to serve as association representatives, committee members and on executive boards.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS FOR A DISTRICT PARTICIPATING IN ELI?

District Councils must commit to being fully engaged in the ELI program to see desired outcomes. Here are the responsibilities of a District participating in ELI:

- Identify an ELI coach to lead the program for each cohort of 6-12 fellows.
- Along with the ELI coach(es) and local associations, recruit fellows who meet the selection criteria.
- Provide information and support to ELI coach and fellows as they learn about the Association, research issues of concern to new educators and develop a plan of action.
- Review and provide feedback to the Leadership and Engagement Action Plan (LEAP) developed by the fellows.
- District Chair will attend or send a representative to the ELI kickoff event.
- Work with local associations to find existing and new leadership opportunities for ELI fellows upon program completion.

WHAT SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE TO DISTRICTS PARTICIPATING IN THE ELI PROGRAM?

ISTA and NEA developed the ELI program to support and assist local associations in reaching new and early career educators. Districts and local association will have access to resources, guidance and training to ensure the program succeeds.

Additionally, each participating District receives a stipend to defray the cost of meetings, mileage, etc. ISTA provides the curriculum and training for ELI coaches. The ELI hub coordinator is available to provide support and answer questions.



WHAT IS THE CRITERIA FOR A DISTRICT APPLYING FOR ELI?

All interested Districts and local associations are encouraged to apply, but preference will be given to Districts and local associations meeting the following criteria:

- Recruit a dedicated ELI coach.
- Ability to commit to at least one full cohort of 12 ELI fellows to participate.
- Commitment to recruiting a diverse cohort.
- Preference given to Districts currently in the ELI program, who meet all other criteria and wish to continue.

Apply to participate in ELI at ista-in.org/ELI.