

DC Education Research Collaborative



Agenda

- Membership committee update
- Research agenda discussion
- Engagement and next steps

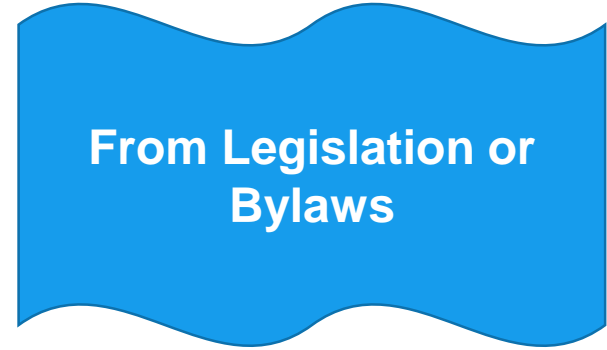
Membership **DRAFT**

The following describes the eligibility, requirements, term limits, selection process, and termination procedures for membership in the Advisory Committee of the DC Research Collaborative.

Developed based on the:

- Research Practice Partnership legislation (D.C. Act 22-597 Sec. (105))
- Latest Collaborative bylaws
- **Suggestions from membership subcommittee members** – *focus of tonight's meeting*

Institutional Members



Eligibility

1. Employed with one of the legislated institutional groups
2. Limited to only 1 member per group
3. Does not have to be a resident of Washington, DC

Requirements

1. Attends 75% of Advisory Committee public meetings per calendar year
2. Actively participates during meetings
3. Participates in at least 1 standing committee
4. Collects and shares interests and feedback of their respective institution

Institutional Members, cont'd

From Legislation or
Bylaws

Term Limits

1. Inaugural members – may extend participation by 1 additional year = no more than 4 years in total
2. “New” members limited to a two-year term that can be extended by one additional year not exceeding three years of service

Selection Process

1. Replaced at will and/or rotated by the institution – **on a rolling, as needed basis**
2. Outgoing member must designate the next institutional member within 2 weeks of their resignation in collaboration with the institution
3. Otherwise, the Executive Director of the Consortium will contact the institution’s executive leadership for a replacement.

Institutional Members, cont'd



From Legislation or
Bylaws

Voluntary Resignation

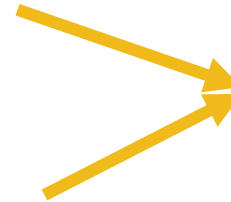
1. Members can end their membership by submitting written notice to the Chair(s) and Executive Director.

Termination

1. When member is no longer employed by the institution.
2. If a member does not attend 3 consecutive public meetings and is unresponsive to communications for more than 2 months.

Non-Institutional Member Eligibility

1. Can contribute substantive expertise to the research process related to student learning, school improvement, and urban education policy
2. Be actively involved in practice, policy, or research on school improvement
3. Represent a diverse set of perspectives reflective of experiences within the DC school system, in particular across race, class, ethnicity, gender, ability, wards, and sector
4. **Have the intention to work collaboratively with all Advisory Members to support a shared research agenda and not specific advocacy**



Parents, students, teachers, and principals should demonstrate that they are active members of their school and school communities. Research familiarity is a plus but not required.



Non-Institutional Member Eligibility, cont'd

5. **Committed to supporting the Collaborative's mission**
6. **Committed to ensuring the Collaborative runs as efficiently as possible and being responsive to the Urban Institute and its associated Collaborative Executive Director**
7. Must be a resident of Washington, DC
8. Members cannot be employees of the Urban Institute or any other research entity participating in the Collaborative.



Non-Institutional Member Requirements and Term Length

Requirements

1. Attends 75% of Advisory Committee public meetings per calendar year
2. Actively participates during meetings
3. Participates in at least 1 standing committee
4. Collects and shares interests and feedback of their respective group

Term Limits

1. Inaugural members – may extend participation by 1 additional year = no more than 4 years in total
2. “New” members limited to a two-year term that can be extended by one additional year not exceeding three years of service



From Legislation or
Bylaws

Same as Institutional
members!

Non-Institutional Filling Vacancies



For
Discussion

Process Overview

1. When there are vacancies, interested individuals may **apply** for a vacant seat during the “**open season.**”
2. Interested individuals should **fill out an application** briefly describing how they meet each of the **membership criteria** and how they meet the membership committee’s **Request for Applicants.**
3. Interested individuals are encouraged to be “**endorsed**” by sitting Advisory Committee member as indicated on the application.
4. Sitting Advisory Committee members are **limited** to endorsing **up to two prospective candidates** per open season.
5. Interested individuals may be asked to **attend a subcommittee meeting** where members can briefly ask questions of the potential candidates to clarify the application submission.
6. Subcommittee members will **score applicants** to identify new members.

Non-Institutional Identified Member Need

Request for Applicants (RFA)

1. The membership subcommittee in July and August of each year will develop a **Request for Applicants (RFA)** that **identifies the number of vacancies** and the **types of noninstitutional positions** (e.g., parent, school leader, researcher) as well as **preferred wards** of residence or **sector** of school **needed to balance** the Advisory Committee for the upcoming year.

Open Season

1. The membership committee will **post the RFA** in September **before the “open season.”**
2. The Advisory Committee will hold an **open application season** in **October** and encourage applicants to be responsive to the RFA.



For
Discussion

Non-Institutional Member Scoring and Selection

Vetting Applications

1. The **membership subcommittee** will **vet all applications** in **November** using the **membership applicant rubric**.
2. The membership subcommittee **may request that applicants** attend a **virtual subcommittee meeting** in November so that the subcommittee can **ask for clarifying information**.
3. The membership subcommittee will identify those individuals who will become part of the Advisory Committee using the **scoring rubric**. The subcommittee members will come to **consensus** on the final selections.
4. The membership subcommittee will **present the new members** to the Advisory Committee during the **December meeting**.
5. The **new Advisory Committee members** will start in **January** of the upcoming year.



For
Discussion

Non-Institutional New Member Application

Part 1 of the Application

Includes **brief open-ended responses** describing how they meet the **eligibility criteria**

1. Description of the candidate's **expertise in the research process** related to student learning, school improvement, and urban education policy, and/or **evidence of active participation** in a specific school communit(ies).
2. Description of the candidate's **active involvement in practice, policy, or research on school improvement**.
3. Explanation of the **candidate's intention to work collaboratively** with all Advisory Committee members (institutional and non institutional) on behalf of supporting a shared research agenda. Applicant should **describe experiences** with other collaborative processes.
4. Explanation of their **commitment to building a research agenda** and how the candidate sees this benefitting Washington, DC education landscape.
5. Explanation of their **commitment to working with Collaborative's** staff and other Advisory Committee members. Examples from other experiences welcomed.



For
Discussion

Non-Institutional New Member Application, cont'd

Part 2 of the Application

The application will have a series of check boxes to indicate the experiences they represent:

1. **Affiliated position** within DC education landscape
 - Select 1: parent, student, teacher, school leader/principal, researcher, or supporting education organization
2. Name of **affiliated public school**(s), if applicable
 - Ward of school
3. **Ward of residence** (cannot live outside of Washington, DC)
4. Race/ethnicity
5. Gender affiliation
6. Name(s) of current Advisory Committee **members endorsing** the candidate and confirming the candidate meets the membership eligibility listed in #1.

What else? What's missing?



For
Discussion

Non-Institutional Member Application Scoring Rubric

Will be based on whether the applicant:

1. Meets the eligibility requirements
2. Meets the identified needs in the Request for Applicants
3. Is endorsed by sitting Advisory Committee members



Review: Research Agenda Form and Content

This evening we will:

1. Review the form and content of a research agenda
2. Describe our process and timeline
3. Get input on key questions so that the agenda can be finalized
4. Discuss next steps

Purpose of our research agenda

- To clarify and communicate our goals and priorities for DC's students and schools
- To plan for 5 years' worth of rigorous and relevant research that is useful and actionable to practitioners
- To focus researchers' time and resources on questions that the DC education community needs answered in order to make decisions that improve outcomes and advance equity

Research agenda form and content

- List of 6 focus areas
 - Focus areas are broad topics that **describe the Collaborative’s goals for public education in DC.**
- List of 3-5 guiding questions per focus area
 - Guiding questions are not specific enough to be projects on their own.
 - Multiple projects create a body of work that informs each guiding question.
 - Guiding questions can be sequential or topical.
 - Broadly, the format is “If we can get answers to these guiding questions, we can inform decisions to meet the goal for this area.”

Our core values will drive the way we construct our research agenda, and the topics that are on our agenda

- **Collaboration** with policymakers, district and school leaders, teachers, families, and others working to improve public schools
- **Equity** as both a goal of our research and an integral part of our interactions with stakeholders
- **Independence** from government, funders, and outside interests
- **Quality** in our research and research products
- **Relevance** to the needs and contexts of local stakeholders
- **Transparency** about our funding, methods, and findings

Timeline and Process

DC Education Research Collaborative Timeline



Research Agenda Working Group Structure

- 5 Advisory Committee, 4 Research Council members volunteered in early September.
- Whole group work sessions in September, October (upcoming November, December).
 - Work sessions so far were in-person, organized by Collaborative staff and largely directed by the Working Group
- Multiple rounds of asynchronous work to draft, edit, and refine efforts.
 - Asynchronous work was collected and synthesized by Collaborative staff, then returned to the Working Group for further iteration.

Conversations To Date

1. Collaborative brainstorming (initial, March 2022; follow up, August 2022)
2. Survey open to the public (August-September, 2022)
3. Public listening session (August 2022)
4. DC education organization listening session, organized/facilitated by the DC Students Succeed Coalition (August 2022)
5. Parent listening session, organized/facilitated by PAVE (September 2022)
6. Teacher listening session, organized/facilitated by EmpowerEd (September 2022)
7. Collaborative focus area green light survey (October 2022)
8. Ward 1 education dialogue group listening session (October 2022)
9. Educator workshops, conducted by the DC Policy Center (2021, prior to research agenda work)

Research Agenda Working Group Process

Work so far:

1. Reviewed all conversation data (initial and data gathered during the Working Group meeting period)
2. Drafted, discussed, revised focus areas
3. Conducted green-light survey of focus areas (whole Advisory Committee)
4. Revised focus areas based on survey results
5. Drafted, discussed, revised guiding questions and framing

Next steps:

1. This week: revise guiding questions and framing after Advisory Committee input
2. November: post agenda for public comment
3. November/December: finalize entire agenda for Advisory Committee approval

Group Discussion

Group Discussion

- Research agenda: Do any focus areas and guiding questions require clarification? (Are the words and their meaning clear and understandable?)
- Research agenda: Do the guiding questions adequately cover each focus area/goal? (If the guiding questions are answered, will they inform decisions to achieve the goal?)
- Research agenda: Does the following guiding question require revision: “What mechanisms could make DC schools more socioeconomically, socially, and culturally diverse?”
- Framing: Are there concepts that should be included or rethought?

Next Steps

Research Agenda Next Steps

1. This week: revise guiding questions and framing after Advisory Committee input
2. November: publish entire agenda for public comment
 1. Will be published in English and Spanish on Collaborative web page by Nov. 9
 2. We will notify everyone on the Collaborative newsletter list
 3. AC members should share with their networks
 4. Comments can be submitted via email or form until Nov. 23
3. November/December: finalize entire agenda for Advisory Committee approval