

Delaware's instructional [vision](#) is that every learner leaves school ready for success in college, career, and life. Two critical pillars support the vision: One, that teachers provide students with high quality, standards-aligned instruction every day. Two, that school and district leaders provide teachers with standards-aligned instructional materials and professional learning.

WHAT IS HIGH QUALITY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING?

[Research](#) indicates that high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) improve outcomes for students in substantial, cost-effective, and scalable ways. However, implementing HQIM effectively requires a shift in how teachers teach. Therefore, teachers and leaders need high-quality professional learning (HQPL) that demonstrates how to use HQIM to meet the learning needs of every student.



"The DDOE is committed to providing all teachers with high-quality professional learning in order to help us achieve our shared vision for students."

Susan Bunting,
Secretary of Education

THE DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DDOE) DEFINES HQPL AS:



SPECIFIC:

It deepens educators' understanding of what to teach and how to teach it.



RELEVANT:

It's connected to the instructional materials teachers are expected to use in their classrooms rather than isolated teaching strategies that are unrelated to what students are learning. HQPL should also be relevant to a teacher's subject area and grade-level as much as possible.



EQUITABLE:

It helps teachers make smart, deliberate adaptations to their instructional materials so that all students have the appropriate support they need and also takes into consideration educators' own learning needs and provides them with the appropriate support.



ONGOING:

It's provided regularly and often throughout the year to ensure educators receive the support they deserve.



ENGAGING:

It creates an engaging space in which educators can ask questions, collaboratively develop and discuss ideas, practice new skills, receive feedback from others, and reflect on their learning.

WANT TO KNOW WHO PROVIDES HQPL?

VIEW THE

[DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PARTNERS GUIDE](#)

WHY IS HQPL IMPORTANT?

Teachers must know the lesson content and structure inside and out to be able to teach new HQIM to students. Teachers also need ongoing professional learning after their initial training, as questions arise as the school year proceeds. Setting up teachers for success helps ensure student success. With proper training, teachers are free to use their creativity to bring new curriculum to life for each student. [Research](#) shows that students fare better when instruction and teacher training are closely linked. Teachers also report that substantial professional learning contributes to their job satisfaction and retention.

WHAT IS THE STATE'S ROLE IN ENSURING EDUCATORS HAVE ACCESS TO HQPL?

As with high quality instructional materials, the DDOE's role in HQPL is helping to identify providers and materials and leaving the selection to those closest to students: district and school leaders. To achieve these goals, the DDOE provides school systems with tools, resources, and guidance that will support them in making informed decisions about HQIM and HQIM-aligned professional learning.

DDOE LED INITIATIVES



DELIVERS

WHO TO CONTACT?

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or visit our [website](#)

For additional details on any of these initiatives, view our [Supporting HQIM Adoption and Implementation overview](#).