



Deeper civic learning

Integrate students' values, knowledge, & skills for civic engagement in their communities.



Aligned to state standards & national best practices

8 units & 2 modules offer a coherent sequence aligned to both the 2018 MA History & Social Science Curriculum Frameworks & the national Educating for American Democracy Roadmap.



Evidence-based instructional practices

Students experience project-based civic learning, taking on authentic roles & using tools & practices to address civic issues and opportunities.



The MA DKP Launch Cohort Program provides middle schools with financial resources & on-the-ground support

As a member of the cohort, schools are provided:

- School-specific implementation support
- Grant funding to offset professional learning (PL)
- Priority access to PL opportunities, virtual supports & new implementation resources
- Additional PL resources & student programming (e.g. educator community events and student civics showcases)



To participate, schools develop a three-year implementation plan that ensures:

- Full *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy* curriculum adoption (all 8 units & 2 modules) in grade 8
- Whole 8th grade participation- 100% of 8th grade students & civics teachers
- Robust educator PL - all 8th grade civics teachers participate in summer institute & day long workshops during the school year
- Champions lead the work at the district & school level



Applications due March 15, 2024

Visit www.one8ALHub.org/DKPgrants
for additional information and grant application

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **When are applications due?** Applications are due March 15, 2024.
2. **How do I apply?** To apply for the program, please visit www.one8ALHub.org/DKPgrant to access the online application.
3. **Which schools are eligible to apply?** Schools must be in districts with at least 15% of students designated as economically disadvantaged. Schools must have at least 10 students in grade 8.
4. **Who is offering this grant program?** The MA DKP Launch Cohort Program is based out of Partners in Democracy-Education, a 501c3 non-profit. The program builds on the robust experience of the DKP co-creating and piloting its year-long 8th grade civics curriculum, *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy*, with more than 60 MA educators. One8 Foundation, which has experience supporting scaled-up implementation of curricula in schools, is providing funding for the program. One8 will be hosting the 2024-25 grant application cycle. One8 and DKP will be selecting program participants together.
5. **Can a grant span more than one year?** Grants are awarded over a period of three years. Our experience is that it takes three years for educators to be fully knowledgeable about, and comfortable, with a new curriculum.
6. **How are grant sizes determined? What can grant funding be used for?** Grant funding is intended to support high-quality adoption of DKP curricular resources and more specifically intended to offset the costs associated with launching the program. Schools awarded grants will receive professional learning and school-specific implementation support from the DKP team. Grant award sizes are determined by school size and based on two key start-up costs: 1) professional learning for educators, and 2) on-the-ground implementation support from DKP team members.
7. **I thought DKP's 8th-grade civics curriculum, *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy*, was free and open source - what do I need a grant for?** *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy* is an open-source curriculum that is free and available for access via an online platform. The grant program is designed to support schools to go beyond just accessing curricular materials. It will support teachers and leaders as they adopt and implement the curriculum. Grants provide for educator professional learning on core DKP approaches: deeper civic learning focused on integrating students' values, knowledge, and skills; project-based civic learning; and thematic (rather than chronological) civic learning. Teachers who piloted *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy* report that professional learning is essential to be able to effectively lead students through the curriculum. The grant will also provide on-the-ground implementation support for schools, including support for positive community connections and troubleshooting context-specific challenges.
8. **Can my school request additional funding for teachers to complete more professional learning?** The grant is designed to provide financial support for 8th-grade civics teachers to receive curriculum-aligned PL. The grant also provides for school context-specific implementation support. Additionally, we will be working to create asynchronous resources to support teachers on all units. If schools would like teachers to complete other official DKP and/or Project Zero professional learning or train additional teachers, they will need to use local funding.
9. **What makes an application competitive?** The MA DKP Launch Cohort Program seeks to partner with schools that are committed to full adoption of *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy* to revitalize civic education for their 8th-grade students and teachers. Competitive applications demonstrate knowledge of and commitment to the DKP's instructional approach and outline a sensible implementation plan that, within three years, allows students to complete all curricular units and modules.
10. **How should I plan for rolling out units and pacing teacher training? Do I have to do everything at once?** Schools have up to three years to fully build out their *Civic Engagement in Our Democracy* program. Based on the DKP pilot, we ask that teachers focus on teaching Units 0-6 in year 1 and add on Unit 7 and previous supporting lessons from prior units in year 2. Teachers are welcome to choose more than the focus components in these two years. We expect that teachers will be teaching 100% of the units and modules by year 3.
11. **Can we edit our application after it has been submitted?** The portal allows you to log in and adjust at any point in the process before clicking "Submit." Please note: you will be asked to re-enter your email and create a new password each time you wish to save the form and resume later (you may use the same password you used previously).