

Dialogue 250

Building educator capacity to facilitate civic dialogue and engagement around the most essential primary sources from 250 years of U.S. History

Dialogue 250 (D250) is a one-year cohort-based professional learning fellowship that brings together secondary educators to sharpen their civic inquiry instructional skills through a partnership between the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC), Purdue University's College of Education, and Purdue's James F. Ackerman Center for Democratic Citizenship.

The D250 program focuses on empowering teachers to effectively use key primary source documents in their classrooms, leveraging those texts in a way that results in inquiry, critical thinking, productive civic discourse, and rigorous writing around complex topics in U.S. history and civics.

D250 is funded through a 2025 U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) American History/Civics, Seminars (AHC-Seminars) grant.

2026-2027 Cohort Overview

- Eligible educators for the 2026-27 cohort are Grade 6-8 Social Studies or ELA teachers in high-need public schools in Indiana, Kentucky, and North Carolina.
- Teachers who apply will be notified of their status by no later than May 2026.
- Each teacher accepted into the 2026-27 cohort is eligible for \$2,000 in stipend funding, paid directly to the teacher in multiple installments over the year, provided that they are completing program requirements.
- Teachers who join the program will:
 - Attend two day-long in-person PD sessions on **July 29, 2026** and on a **TBD Saturday in May 2027** on the campus of Purdue University (basic travel expenses are paid by LDC)
 - Attend three two-hour virtual PD sessions, and ten hours of online, asynchronous PD
 - Implement five Dialogue 250 student seminar experiences (2-4 days in length) -- all curricular experiences are anchored around primary sources and civic discussion
 - Share feedback and anonymized scored student work samples with LDC and Purdue