Introduction to the Professional Learning Content Folders

A comprehensive system of ongoing, job-embedded professional learning is essential for any effort to support and sustain social and emotional learning (SEL) at the state, district, or school level. Although not all educators need the same professional learning support, all staff in a school should engage in professional learning that allows them to develop a common vision and language for student social and emotional development, and learn about practices that support student development of social, emotional, and academic competencies.

To assist state working groups in developing a high-quality professional learning system, we are deeply grateful that the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) allowed us to share the content from OSPI's online module, *Social and Emotional Learning in Washington State Schools: Building Foundations and Strategies.* The SEL professional learning modules created by OSPI, with support from the American Institutes for Research (AIR), are also being used to develop modules in Michigan, Oregon, and Wisconsin.

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), in collaboration with AIR, adapted the OSPI online modules so that any state working group interested in developing a high-quality professional learning system can use the content from the five online professional learning modules originally developed by OSPI and AIR.

This document, *Introduction to the Professional Learning Content Folders*, provides state teams with an overview of what resources are available to you, including the five overarching SEL topics covered in each of the professional learning modules and an associated *Professional Learning Guidebook*, which provides guidance on how to use each of the SEL topics and associated materials to develop a customized professional learning experience for your educators.

Five Overarching SEL Topics Covered

The OSPI's modules cover five separate topics (described below). When you go to the folder for each topic, you will find a storyboard (which includes content to disseminate, reflective questions, videos, and readings) and associated activities.

1. *Introduction to Social and Emotional Learning*—This topic provides introductory information about SEL, including the research that informs effective SEL practices.

2. *Embedding Social and Emotional Learning Schoolwide*—This topic provides information on how educators can support and embed SEL throughout the school, including policies and practices to create a schoolwide SEL effort and implement systematic SEL assessment.

3. *Creating a Professional Culture Based on SEL*—This topic covers adult social and emotional development in schools, including adult social and emotional competencies, cultural responsiveness, implicit bias, adult self-care, and strategies to engage families and communities.

4. *Integrating SEL Into a Culturally Responsive Classroom*—This topic provides information about instructional practices to ingrate SEL through daily instruction, including 10 teaching practices that promote SEL, embedding SEL into academics, and culturally responsive teaching.

5. *Identifying and Selecting Evidence-Based SEL Programs*—This topic covers strategies to select evidence-based SEL programs, approaches to adapt evidence-based practices to meet the needs of all students, Universal Design for Learning, and assessment.

Professional Learning Guidebook

To assist states in using the content from the professional learning modules- both online and in other contexts- AIR and CASEL also codeveloped the *Designing, Developing, and Implementing Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Professional Learning Guidebook* (Guidebook) to support state and local education agency staff, administrators, instructional coaches, and other support staff in designing, developing, and implementing SEL-related professional learning for educators.

What Is Included in the Guidebook

Those interested in designing, developing, and implementing a high-quality professional learning system can use the Guidebook to do the following:

- Identify SEL-related content that can be used to support professional learning for school and district staff.

- Identify SEL-related content that can support school and district leadership teams to develop a comprehensive SEL effort.

- Create SEL-related professional learning experiences that are relevant, engaging, and interactive.

- Create a comprehensive, job-embedded, ongoing professional learning system to promote SEL for all students.

To accomplish these goals, within the Guidebook we provide (1) an overview of the SEL content outlined in the Guidebook, with information about what types of SEL content you can expect to find (and not find) in the Guidebook to support SEL implementation; (2) key considerations as you design, develop, and implement a high-quality professional learning system; and (3) an explanation about how to use the rest of the Guidebook, which provides information on how best to access the associated professional learning materials.

American Institutes for Research, and
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning.

Introduction to the Professional Learning
Content Folders—2