

# CASEL Weissberg Scholars

Innovators of Social, Emotional, and Academic Learning

Inspiring a new generation of early career scholars and educators who embody evidence-based research and collaboration to advance social and emotional learning in support of the positive development of children, families, and communities. *For more:* [casel.info/weissbergscholars](https://casel.info/weissbergscholars)

## TIMELINE

- Applications open on **June 10, 2025**
- Applications close on **September 9, 2025**
- Cohort Announced—**September 2025**
- Kickoff Meeting—**November 2025**

## ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must have received a Ph.D., Ed.D., or equivalent research degree between January 2020 and October 2025.
- Applicants' previous experience or current work is in settings that include, but are not limited to, domestic or international, university/college, school districts, research organizations, policy institutes, nonprofits, or state or federal governments or ministries.
- Applicants must demonstrate experience/commitment to collaborative SEL research approaches on *at least* one audience: educators, families, community, policymakers, children and youth.
- Applicants should conduct research that takes place in real-world settings.
- Applicants demonstrate potential to become innovators in SEL research, practice, and policy.
- Applicants should identify area(s) in which participation in the CASEL Weissberg Scholars program will expand their expertise, and specific details should be provided in their application.

## POSSIBLE THEMES OF APPLICANTS' RESEARCH PROGRAM

- Civic education
- Family-school partnerships and SEL
- Adult SEL
- Transformative SEL
- Outcome evaluations of SEL programs for children and youth
- Implementation science and SEL
- Integrating systemic SEL into teacher preparation
- Systemic approaches to SEL in schools and communities
- SEL with parents and families
- SEL and out-of-school time
- Development of social and emotional skills, attitudes, and values
- Workforce readiness and entrepreneurship
- SEL policy

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

The application should make a cohesive argument for how the applicant will expand their expertise by participating in the CASEL Weissberg Scholars program. **All materials must be received no later than 5pm CT on Tuesday, September 9, 2025.** *Please account for time zone differences.*



Questions: [cwscholars@casel.org](mailto:cwscholars@casel.org)

**Current Curriculum Vita or Resume (no acronyms) that includes the categories below:**

- Education beyond high school (include any professional education beyond the highest earned degree), beginning with your most recent program of study. Be sure to include the name(s) of your institution, location, major/minor, degree, and date awarded.
- Employment beginning with the most recent. Include title, organization name, location, dates.
- Awards or fellowships received. Include title and dates.
- Publications and research relevant to education.

**Career Statement Narrative (four-page limit, double-spaced):**

- Please describe your current work in the field of SEL (one-page, double-spaced).
- What led you to your current role? How does your work align with the eligibility criteria for the CASEL Weissberg Scholar Program? Indicate how your long-term professional goals will be advanced through this opportunity (two-pages, double-spaced).
- Discuss any previous research collaborations with school districts (one-page, double-spaced).

**Additional Materials:**

- Submit up to three **sample publications/reports** or equivalent.
- List the name, title, email, phone number, and organization of three professional **references**.
- *Optional:* Provide the names of up to three senior scholars in the field of SEL who you would like to serve as your mentor. *Note: We may not be able to accommodate all requests.*

## SCHOLAR BENEFITS

- Receive mentorship from a leader in SEL research, practice, or policy. Mentors will be matched with each CASEL Weissberg Scholar based on shared interests.
- Learn from and collaborate with CASEL leadership and staff, SEL thought leaders in research, practice, and policy, and other Scholars.
- Have the opportunity to apply for funding for a Seed Grant for prosociality-related SEL research (up to \$20,000 in funding per grant and funded by Towards Kindness).
- Have all expenses covered to attend one in-person retreat and the SEL Exchange.

## SCHOLAR COMMITMENTS

If selected for the two-year program, CASEL Weissberg Scholars commit to:

- Participate in joint welcome meetings with other CASEL Weissberg Scholars and the Scholars Program Advisory Committee to make mutual introductions.
- Schedule a virtual introductory meeting with an assigned mentor to discuss initial thoughts for the scholar's Individual Professional Development Plan.
- Attend regular meetings and seminars, including:
  - Ongoing bi-monthly virtual seminars with other Scholars and SEL leaders, arranged by the Scholars Program Advisory Committee, for discussion and dialogue
  - Bi-monthly one-on-one meetings with Mentor
  - One, in-person meeting with scholars, mentors, CASEL, etc. (date, location TBD)
  - The *SEL Exchange*, hosted annually by CASEL in the Fall
- Submit an Individual Professional Development Plan to the mentor, to be used at bi-monthly.
- Engage in touch-base calls to track progress and connect when opportunities or challenges arise.
- Engage with CASEL by contributing to products, such as: blog, webinar, briefs/syntheses, conference presentation or posters, Congressional briefings.
- Complete an annual end-of-year report to help the CASEL Weissberg Scholars program with continuous quality improvement.

