

EDUCATING FOR AMERICAN ★ DEMOCRACY

STAKEHOLDER BRIEF FOR CURRICULUM PROVIDERS

This brief is meant for **curriculum providers**, both for- and non-profit, which design instructional materials for K–12 history and/or civics courses. If you work for or represent such an organization or company, this brief is meant to solicit your advocacy for and your commitment to providing materials that reflect the *EAD Roadmap* and its *Pedagogy Companion*.

WHAT THE *EAD ROADMAP* OFFERS

The EAD Roadmap represents the consensus of a large, ideologically diverse, and multi-disciplinary project team about what to teach in American history and civics (from K–12) and how to teach it: content and pedagogy. It is not a curriculum, a standards document, a textbook, or a collection of instructional materials, but it is expected to influence all of those over time. It should be useful to you as you design curricula and materials.

ADVOCATING FOR THE FIELD

Curriculum providers in the K–12 history and/or civics space do not simply create and distribute high-quality, accessible materials that support rigorous learning. They must also help cultivate the conditions in which teachers may use these materials and students may benefit from the rich learning experiences they provide. To that effect, your commitment to advocating for EAD-aligned policy—that is, policy that promotes inquiry-based, integrative history and civics instruction across all grade bands—is essential to the maintenance and growth of the field, as well as the health of our constitutional democracy.

MAKING THE CASE FOR HISTORY AND CIVIC EDUCATION

When talking to fellow members of your community, and especially those with influence over education, you may consider making these points, which are presented and justified in greater detail in the *Roadmap*:

- ▶ **Strengthening** history and civic education is vital to preserving and improving America's constitutional democracy and for addressing specific deficits in our public life, such as hyper-partisanship and false information.
- ▶ **American history and civics** have been badly neglected in schools.
- ▶ **Despite deep disagreements** in our society as a whole, the *EAD Roadmap* demonstrates that a consensus exists about the core topics and issues to study in American history and civics. That consensus includes an agreement about the deep and worthy *disagreements* that young Americans should understand and learn to navigate.
- ▶ **All young people** deserve an excellent education in history and civics and a curriculum that resonates with their own backgrounds and experiences.



VISIT
www.educatingforamericandemocracy.org
to download a copy of the Roadmap.

For more specific information about what you can do, click on
“Take Action,” and look for the stakeholder brief that best matches
your role. For comments or questions, please contact us at EAD@iCivics.org.

DOING WHAT YOU DO BEST

In addition to your advocacy, the long-term success of EAD requires you to continue doing what you do best—developing high-quality, accessible curricular materials that support rigorous learning in American history and civics.

As you do so, it is important to consult the *Roadmap* and its *Pedagogy Companion*, continuously assessing the ways prospective instructional materials align with the themes, questions, and design challenges of the *Roadmap*, and reflects the core pedagogical principles of history and civics. Taking the next step and submitting those resources to be reviewed and published on the EAD website will help ensure that educators have access to instructional materials that will help them shift their mindset, curricular content, and practice in the classroom.

To that end, we encourage you to do what you've always done: engage subject-matter experts. Doing so serves two purposes: 1) it taps them to contribute to the kinds of overarching and relevant narratives needed in K–12 curricula, and 2) it ensures that those narratives and the new learning they reflect are woven into the instructional materials you create. We also encourage you to engage methods professors and practicing teachers. As subject matter experts in their own right, these professionals will help to ensure that the latest in learning science and best practices is reflected in your materials.

Lastly, regular collaboration with peer organizations—other providers of high-quality, accessible curricular materials that support rigorous learning in history and civics—will encourage greater alignment to the *Roadmap* and its *Pedagogy Companion* and help to strengthen the resources of all parties. Our teachers and our students will be better served when all curriculum providers are designing materials that support the kind of knowledge, skills, and dispositional learning that are needed to support healthy civic participation.

If your organization also offers professional development opportunities, please download our Professional Development Providers brief.



VISIT
www.educatingforamericandemocracy.org
to download a copy of the Roadmap.

For more specific information about what you can do, click on “Take Action,” and look for the stakeholder brief that best matches your role. For comments or questions, please contact us at EAD@iCivics.org.