

**Invitation to Apply for the Partnership Access Line (PAL) for Schools
Telepsychiatry Consultation Pilot Program**
(ESHB 1109.SL section (dd) p 329)

Due Date: October 4, 2019

The University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital will implement a two-year pilot of school staff mental health education, and telephone and televideo psychiatric consultations for students at middle, junior and high schools in in **two** Washington school districts. Pilot duration will be during the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.

Purpose: To provide (1) professional learning opportunities for school staff and (2) telehealth consultations that serve as one strategy among the school's multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) for behavioral and mental health.

Eligibility: School Districts of 2,000 – 20,000 students that can demonstrate readiness of middle and high schools to: (1) identify a lead contact for coordinating services; (2) co-develop a professional learning plan with project staff on school mental health using tele-consultation; (3) host telemedicine appointments during the school day.

Number of districts to be chosen: 2 - one district east and one west of the Cascades.

Telehealth Program details:

A. Mental Health Trainings: Trainings on behavioral and mental health topics for school counselors, social workers, psychologists, nurses, teachers, administrators and classified staff school personnel that have been identified through a needs assessment. Some examples include: suicide prevention, de-escalation, staff wellness/self-care, understanding child development, creating trauma-informed school environments, substance abuse, etc. *Estimated start date: January 2020*

B. Staff Tele-Consultations: Work with schools and District to develop a system so that school **counselors** or designated personnel that attended mental health trainings can access same day telephone consultations with psychologists and psychiatrists based at University of Washington Department of Psychiatry and at Seattle Children's Hospital, to help school staff determine what services and supports are needed and work with them to access this care if outside of the school system. This could include crisis management services when assessed as clinically appropriate. *Estimated start date: February - March 2020*

C. Student Tele-Video Psychiatric Consultation Appointments: Available for students identified per the above consult calls as clinically appropriate. *Estimated start date: beginning February - March 2020*

Expectations for Participants:

- Co-develop a professional learning plan with project staff that includes the training topics, dates, location, and expectations for staff attending the mental health trainings. School counselors and other trained staff will be eligible to call the consultation line for students in need of support.
- Identify a lead contact for coordinating services and allow time for coordination. This might include a school counselor or other ESA or administrator. *Fiscal support is available for this role through project funding.*
- Readiness to host telemedicine appointments during the school day, which includes a private room with a broadband connected computer (to host a computer/web-cam based video conference).
- Sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and data-sharing agreement.
- Participate in PAL program evaluation.

Application: A representative of an interested school district will need to complete a very short online application, at the following link:

[PAL FOR SCHOOLS PILOT APPLICATION](#)

Due date: October 4, 2019

Application Questions: Consider first answering questions in a word document then entering them into the survey.

1. *Name of district, person completing application, email and phone of person completing application.*
2. *Describe the behavioral mental health needs of your students. Please include some examples of the most serious concerns.*
3. *Are you using an MTSS framework to address behavioral and mental health needs? If so, discuss or provide documentation (e.g., MTSS handbook, link to website, menu of interventions/supports, school improvement plans) that describes your district's MTSS efforts.*
4. *Describe the ways health professionals/clinicians, health centers, community providers, etc., in or affiliated with your district provide or are able to provide Tier 2/3 behavioral or mental health services to students.*
5. *What challenges do you anticipate as a pilot district and what ideas do you have or supports do you need for overcoming these challenges?*
6. *How would you identify behavioral or mental health topics for professional learning? In other words, what data is available to indicate the most common social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students and/or staff?*
7. *Is there anything we didn't ask that you would like to share with us?*

A webinar will be held the week of September 23, 2019 if you would like additional information. If you would like to participate in the webinar or have questions, please email Megan Lucy, mlucy@uw.edu.

The PAL project staff will review all applications and select two partner districts for this pilot support and education service by **mid-October**.

PAL Project Staff

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