

Highly Effective Schools Through Libraries



Are you a leader who inspires others?
An exemplary instructor?

Do your students and staff find your
library irresistible?

Learn more about receiving
recognition for you and your school.



COLORADO
Department of Education
Colorado State Library



The Highly Effective Schools Through Libraries Program is two-fold.

We provide guidance for K-12 educators as they facilitate students through:

- A) Highly Effective Schools Through Libraries Program (HESTL) Rubric
- B) Coaching

You can earn highly effective status by working with your principal to complete applications for five credentials, using the rubric and guiding document to guide you. After earning all five credentials, the school will acquire the "Highly Effective Schools Through Libraries" program designation.

Principal Collaboration Credential

When you apply for highly effective schools through libraries, your principal is an essential component to your success. Your principal can earn their own credential from HESTL by showing exceptional collaboration, essential support, and advocacy for the librarian as a leader and instructional partner. Your principal will be considered for this distinction as we review all five credential applications and evidence once you have achieved all of them.

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[EVALUATION
RUBRIC](#)

[APPLICATION](#)

Why HESTL?



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HESTL Library Staff are:

- More likely to provide extended learning opportunities for learners (clubs, maker spaces, etc.)
- Equity equalizers skilled in building diverse, high-quality collections.
- Customer service experts who make the library a welcoming, fun, and safe place for all students, staff, and community.
- Collaborative partners with administration, staff, and community partners, seeking ways to carry out school's goals and focus.
- Leaders, providing professional development opportunities, advocating and exploring ways for more funding for library books, materials, and more.
- Specialists in media literacy, digital citizenship, technology literacy, reading literacy, and learning skills, finding ways to partner and collaborate with teachers.
- Curiosity experts who help students discover their interests and ignite their passions.
- Advocates to help empower students by honoring student voice and building students' voice into learning experiences.
- Share their expertise and use resources to provide students, staff, and community with a library collection unique to their school.