

CALIFORNIA

World Language

PROJECT



The mission of the **California World Language Project (CWLP)** is to develop globally useful and appropriate linguistic and social skills in every student. The project cultivates in students an ethos of inclusion, mutual respect and cooperation that is the cornerstone of a sustainable future.

CWLP sponsors professional programs that support educators' content knowledge and classroom skills, so they can engage students in meaningful language-learning experiences. California's students bring a rich variety of languages and cultures to their schools. CWLP seeks to help teachers recognize and build on these assets.

Effective teachers have enormous influence on their students' growth. CWLP encourages educators to reflect on their practice and become more adept at teaching language, literacy and culture to all students. The project prepares students to be high achievers in world languages, which they will need in a world of increasing global interactions, both at home and abroad.

"CWLP is the best thing you can do for yourself and your practice. It keeps your passion alive and provides a platform for learning, improvement and a sense of feeling heard and appreciated by your colleagues."

CWLP PARTICIPANT

All CWLP programs are aligned with California — World Languages Standards, Common Core Literacy Standards for Technical Subjects and English Language Development (ELD) Standards. In addition, each program shares the following goals:

- Providing access to world language programs and equitable learning environments, wherein every student has the opportunity to learn another culture and another language beyond English
- Valuing and strengthening students' heritage languages and cultures while supporting them to remain linguistically and culturally connected to their families and communities
- Expanding language programs across all segments of California's education system to enable learners to attain higher levels of linguistic proficiency and global competency to attain their academic and career goals
- Involving language and culture educators in professional learning communities that promote leadership, high-quality instruction and respect for diverse ideas

LEADERSHIP

The CWLP Leadership Program channels teachers' expertise to provide high-quality professional learning in their own schools, districts and other contexts. The program focuses on bolstering teachers' ongoing leadership development and includes support for aspiring academic coaches and those pursuing leadership roles.

CWLP programs have three facets, each based on the project's vision for professional learning:

- **The Foundation Component** focuses on strengthening teachers' content knowledge and skills in standards-based instruction, second-language acquisition theory and high-leverage teaching practices.
- **The Leadership Development Component** continues to strengthen the content knowledge and skills of teachers and incorporates current research in the field, adult learning theory and leadership skills.
- **The Leadership Cadre Component** enhances the leadership skills of participants while assisting them in acquiring the observation, assessment and coaching skills required to successfully mentor and support colleagues.

OFFERINGS

Participants have access to year-round professional development programs at CWLP regional sites throughout the state. These include seminars, institutes and academic-year program series to advance California's World Language learning goals. CWLP has an impressive record of developing effective teachers to meet the needs of diverse students in their districts and schools. Teachers who participate in our programs become part of a vibrant and supportive CWLP professional network.

All programs emphasize the academic language students need to access the core curriculum and are appropriate for teachers of English learners and students with low literacy skills. To meet the growing needs of schools and districts, CWLP staff provide assistance to schools and districts for collecting, analyzing and employing data to improve instruction.

IMPACT

CWLP has been a consistent advocate for improving access to high-quality world language instruction in PK–12 education. This advocacy includes:

- Maintaining a statewide professional network dedicated to strengthening teachers' content knowledge and instructional skills in world languages
- Providing leadership to different state and local education agencies to strengthen the teaching of world languages and cultures
- Building strong professional learning communities that contribute to teacher retention and stability, especially in underserved schools and districts

CWLP has also established partnerships with embassies and consulate offices and with other international organizations. These partnerships provide rich opportunities for language teachers and students to study abroad and enhance their language and intercultural competence and their ability to interact in diverse academic and professional settings.

REGIONAL SITES

Berkeley World Language Project
 California World Language Project: Statewide Office
 Capital World Language Project
 Central California World Language Project
 Loyola Marymount World Language Project
 Monterey Bay World Language Project
 Southern Area International Language Network
 Stanford World Language Project

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1,572

Number of educators served
(2024–25)

455

Number of schools served
(2024–25)

“CWLP teachers learn to recognize and build upon students’ linguistic and intercultural assets as a bridge to learning all subjects. The project’s premise is that every California student has the right to learn multiple languages, including heritage languages, English and world languages, in a culturally affirming environment.”

CWLP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CWLP is a member of the **California Subject Matter Project (CSMP)**, a network of nine discipline-specific projects administered by the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) that provide high-quality professional learning for P K–12 teachers throughout California. Each project is represented statewide by regional sites on the campuses of UC, California State University, and independent colleges and universities. For more information about CSMP, please visit csmp.online.