

Personalized Learning Policies, Procedures, and Practices

The purpose of this tool is to show how a state and district developed policies, procedures, and practices to initiate personalized learning approaches in schools.

Consider This Sample Scenario

To support effective planning and implementation of personalized learning, a state offered competitive grants to the districts. The district application must address the following criteria and how they will be accomplished over a three-year period of time.

- Include a plan of how traditionally underserved students will participate fully in a personalized learning program.
 - Demonstrate how teachers will be supported to provide personalized learning instruction to all students.
 - Show how the data will inform student learning of the standards.
 - Include sample course options that allow students to pursue academic interests that align to course content.
 - Outline apprenticeship and work-based learning opportunities.
 - Include the communication approach to be taken with students, teachers, and parents throughout the year.
- Show business and community partnerships.
 - Include a schedule for teacher collaboration and job-embedded professional learning.

State leaders offered districts professional learning support to apply for the grant, including opportunities for district leaders to attend presentations and discussions conducted by representatives from organizations and school leaders with personalized learning experience. They anchored the professional learning opportunities on how to plan and implement the elements found in the text box, *Creating Conditions for Personalized Learning*. State leaders also provided information on how ESSA supports personalized learning (e.g., showed the Alliance’s Federal Flash video, *How the ESSA Supports Personalized Learning* [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFKf0iaPeUU>]).

District leaders responded to the state grant opportunity by determining their own policies and procedures. They administered a survey/questionnaire to students to measure their academic interests that they then used to create an elective course credit that would allow students to choose a course that interests them.

Creating Conditions for Personalized Learning

Understand each student's personal and academic background, strengths, interests, and needs. Help each student take ownership.	Provide each student with targeted instruction, practice, and support in areas where they need help, while ensuring that they learn challenging academic content and skills.
Create more flexible learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom, including one-on-one, peer-to-peer, small-group, and online instruction.	Connect students to their local community by engaging them in real-world learning opportunities, such as internships, apprenticeships, and hands-on projects.

Source: <http://all4ed.org/issues/personalized-learning/key-resources/about-personalized-learning/>

Activity

If your district tried to meet the personalized learning criteria for the state grant described in the sample scenario, what policies, procedures, and practices would need to be considered? Record comments in the chart, Policies, Procedures, and Practices Needed to Make a Shift Toward Personalized Learning. Review the finished chart.

- What major strengths and assets are in your current system for accomplishing personalized learning?
- How can these be built upon?
- How will a coalition of support among personnel, students, parents, and the community be built?

Policies, Procedures, and Practices Needed to Make a Shift Toward Personalized Learning

Policies	Procedures	Practices

