

# DC-WIDE GRADUATE PROFILE

In partnership with stakeholders across the District, the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) has developed the inaugural DC-wide Graduate Profile. The DC-wide Graduate Profile articulates a vision for the college and career ready capabilities students should attain in advance of graduation. The DC-wide Graduate Profile will be used to reimagine how, collectively as a city, all DC students are prepared to face a rapidly changing, increasingly culturally diverse and interconnected world. The profile focuses on key academic, personal and interpersonal characteristics and competencies that will equip all DC learners with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue and thrive on the life path of their choice.

## CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Uses inquiry, analysis, and creative and flexible thinking to generate ideas and find solutions to ever-changing challenges.

## SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING

Understands and manages emotions, builds empathy and social connectedness, makes responsible decisions, and practices healthy behaviors.

## GLOBAL AND LOCAL CITIZENSHIP

Possesses the cultural competency skills needed to recognize and respect diverse cultures and perspectives, advocate for self and others, investigate the world, and take informed action on local and global issues.

## LEARNER AGENCY

Develops the personal agency, skills, and knowledge to thrive as a learner, community member, and individual.

## COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

Exhibits clarity of oral and written expression in a variety of settings, works productively in diverse teams, and resolves conflict constructively.

## INFORMATION, MEDIA, AND TECHNOLOGY LITERACY

Possesses adaptable skills in information, media, and digital literacy in preparation for an evolving technological landscape.

## FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Acquires foundational knowledge in academics, financial literacy, and navigating postsecondary options and effectively applies that knowledge to real world situations.

**DC STRONG:**  
Thriving in the 21st Century



**OSSE's Mission:** As DC's state education agency, we will set high standards, build educator and system capacity to meet those standards, expand educational opportunities for all learners with a focus on those underserved and hold everyone — including ourselves — accountable for results.

# DC-WIDE GRADUATE PROFILE COMPETENCIES



## CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING



**Uses inquiry, analysis, and creative and flexible thinking to generate ideas and find solutions to ever-changing challenges.**

- » DC learners will identify and use credible print and online sources of primary and secondary information to build knowledge, adapt to change, make informed decisions, and solve problems.
- » DC learners will be able to integrate and critically evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively), as well as in words to address a question or solve a problem.
- » DC learners will be able to critically evaluate, analyze, compare, and contrast ideas and information to form knowledgeable opinions, support claims, argue, and reason.
- » DC learners will challenge ideas, conclusions, and assumptions, engage in divergent thinking, and promote creative perspectives to find solutions to evolving real-world challenges.
- » DC learners will be able to organize information to support the development, coordination, and execution of a plan to complete a task or solve a problem.



## FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS



**Acquires foundational knowledge in academics, financial literacy, and navigating postsecondary options and effectively applies that knowledge to real world situations.**

- » DC learners will exhibit competence across foundational academic content areas in English/ language arts, reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, world languages, art, and music.
- » DC learners will understand, analyze, and assess financial literacy knowledge and skills in topics including earning income, spending, saving, investing, credit, and managing risk.
- » DC learners will connect academic knowledge across disciplines and apply it to authentic situations.
- » DC learners will have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to navigate career opportunities, projected demand and wages for those occupations, and understand the qualifications and action steps needed to determine and attain their goals.



## INFORMATION, MEDIA, AND TECHNOLOGY LITERACY



**Possesses adaptable skills in information, media, and digital literacy in preparation for an evolving technological landscape.**

- » DC learners will understand the fundamental concepts of how to use devices, software applications, and platforms so that they may use current technologies effectively and transfer their knowledge to the exploration of emerging technologies (e.g., machine learning, artificial intelligence, and data analytics/visualizations).
- » DC learners will acquire knowledge in accessing, analyzing, fact checking (or determining credibility/ trustworthiness/ reliability), citing, and summarizing various forms of print, digital, social media, and newer technologies to generate knowledge and ideas.
- » DC learners will be equipped with the skills to choose platforms and tools appropriate to their goals to access, navigate, produce, and share digital information safely, ethically, and effectively.
- » DC learners will leverage technological methods and computational thinking to analyze, create, and represent data effectively to understand and solve problems.
- » DC learners will develop an understanding of what it means to be a global steward and digital citizen of the worldwide web (e.g., by developing an understanding of system architecture, data integrity, and cyber security).

# DC-WIDE GRADUATE PROFILE COMPETENCIES



## COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION



**Exhibits clarity of oral and written expression in a variety of settings, works productively in diverse teams, and resolves conflict constructively.**

- » DC learners will be able to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas with clarity, persuasiveness, and purpose.
- » DC learners will be able to write, speak, and present well-reasoned and researched ideas visually and orally in a variety of formal and informal contexts.
- » DC learners will be able to initiate and participate in a range of collaborative discussions in diverse teams, conveying a clear and distinct perspective.
- » DC learners will be able to maintain open-mindedness and respond thoughtfully and respectfully to diverse perspectives, synthesize comments, and probe for reasoning and evidence to contribute to a fruitful exchange of ideas.
- » DC learners will be able to utilize appropriate conflict resolution skills to prevent, prepare for, and manage conflicts across settings.
- » DC learners will be able to demonstrate professionalism, dependability, and reliability in team settings.



## LEARNER AGENCY



**Develops the personal agency, skills, and knowledge to thrive as a learner, community member, and individual.**

- » DC learners will cultivate a growth mindset, joy of discovery, and the value of life-long learning.
- » DC learners will develop goal setting skills so that they may take self-directed action to identify, start, and persist toward a goal in both routine and challenging situations (e.g., organizing materials, time management).
- » DC learners will have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to take ownership of their learning process, navigate choices, and make informed decisions to create change.
- » DC learners will be able to identify one's personal strengths, interests, values and challenges and know when and how to seek help.
- » DC learners will identify and develop personal (including postsecondary and/or career readiness) and academic goals with tangible action steps, timeframes, and criteria for evaluating achievement.



## GLOBAL AND LOCAL CITIZENSHIP



**Possesses the cultural competency skills needed to recognize and respect diverse cultures and perspectives, advocate for self and others, investigate the world, and take informed action on local and global issues.**

- » DC learners will develop the skills and dispositions to empathize with and respect others, including those with different and diverse perspectives, abilities, backgrounds, and cultures.
- » DC learners will have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to constructively advocate for their own needs and beliefs and for the needs and beliefs of others.
- » DC learners will recognize one's own role within their school, neighborhood, city, country, and world; recognize and analyze opportunities to participate in civic life locally and abroad; and engage in civic activities to improve their community and the wider world.
- » DC learners will be able to evaluate the cause and effects of, understand, reflect on, and respond to real-world issues from within their communities and around the world to take informed action.
- » DC learners will have an understanding of environmental literacy and sustainable practices.

# DC-WIDE GRADUATE PROFILE COMPETENCIES



## SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING



**Understands and manages emotions, builds empathy and social connectedness, makes responsible decisions, and practices healthy behaviors.**

- » DC learners will develop the capacity to recognize, understand, reflect on, and express one's own emotions, thoughts, and values and how they impact one's actions and the community.
- » DC learners will demonstrate resilience, adaptability, and flexibility when confronted by challenging situations.
- » DC learners will build and maintain positive, respectful, and healthy interpersonal relationships.
- » DC learners will demonstrate the capacity to consider ethics, diversity, and interpersonal safety to make responsible and positive choices and to promote the collective well-being of themselves and others.
- » DC learners will develop appropriate communication skills (e.g., empathic listening, compassion, reflective language) that honor cultural competency, relationships, and safety.
- » DC learners will develop the skills to maintain and improve their health and wellness, prevent disease and injury, and make healthy life-long choices.