



Application for Membership

Please ensure you have reviewed the information regarding selection and characteristics of MSAN districts before completing the application. msan.wceruw.org/members/join-MSAN.html

PART ONE: Applicant Information

Date of Submission	
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District Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip Code	
Website Address	

Name of Superintendent	
Phone	
Email	

Person completing application	
Title	
Phone	
Email	

PART TWO: District Data

Enrollment	
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Student Demographics	Number	Percentage
Hispanic/Latino		
American Indian or Alaska Native		
Asian		
Black or African American		
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
White		
Two or More Races		
Students from low-income households		
Students receiving special education services		

Number of Schools in your District	
Elementary Schools	
Middle Schools / Junior High	
High Schools	
Alternative Schools	
Other	

Student Achievement Data

Please provide the most recent state test results.

Student Group	English Language Arts/Reading % proficient or meeting benchmark	Math % proficient or meeting benchmark
Hispanic/Latino		
American Indian or Alaska Native		
Asian		
Black or African American		
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
White		
Two or More Races		
State Average		

District Funding Source	% of Budget funded by	Approximate amount received
State Funds		
Federal Funds		
Local Funds		

Amount spent per pupil	
District	
State Average	

---Please continue to PART THREE of the application.---

PART THREE: Narrative

Please provide responses to the following questions. Place your answers in the text boxes provided. If you need additional space, or have additional supporting materials, please include the additional pages with the completed application.

1) MSAN is a network committed to supporting districts in meeting the needs of multicultural students in their district. What are the current needs of students of color in your district? Where are the greatest needs and where do you see the most significant disparities?

2) What specific strategies has your district implemented to increase achievement and improve the educational experiences of students of color?



3) How will membership in MSAN support your district's efforts to improve achievement, opportunity and access for students of color? How will your district's membership in MSAN benefit all students in your district?



4) How will your district contribute to MSAN ? What value and benefit will your district bring to the network and other members?

5) Describe/provide an overview of any research partnerships, relationships with researchers, or university research projects your district is involved in. If none, please indicate. *Note: Please review the "Participation in Research and Data Collection" section under the Member Expectations and Obligations section of this application.*



6) One of MSAN's core values is rooted in elevating student voice and empowering student leaders to become active participants in the work to improve schools. Please share how your district currently supports student action and voice, especially for students of color.

Please read the MSAN Member Expectations & Obligations listed on the following pages. Include with this application an email/memo from the superintendent indicating that she/he has read and accepts the obligations associated with participation in the Network.

Please submit all application materials electronically to the MSAN Project Manager, Connie Showalter at connie.showalter@wisc.edu.

MEMBER EXPECTATIONS & OBLIGATIONS

Governing Board

The MSAN Governing Board (GB) is comprised of the superintendents of MSAN districts, the MSAN Executive Director, and the Co-Conveners of the Research Practitioner Council (RPC). The Governing Board meets three times per year and all superintendents are expected to attend. Substitutes (i.e., delegates) cannot attend the meeting in lieu of the superintendent. Additionally, an Executive Committee made up of the Governing Board officers and elected at-large superintendents meets regularly to carry out the work of MSAN and refer items to the full Governing Board for review and action. Each district pays travel and lodging expenses for Governing Board meetings. Meals and other costs are covered by MSAN.

Research Practitioner Council

Each district identifies at least two educators in their district to serve as members of the MSAN Research Practitioner Council (RPC). RPC members are typically assistant superintendents, professionals from a district's research and testing staff, curriculum staff, equity or diversity staff, or other professionals who are knowledgeable of and influence equity-related work, research, policy, instruction or other critical areas. This group also meets three times per year. Each district pays travel and lodging expenses for RPC meetings. Meals and other costs are covered by MSAN.

MSAN Advisors

Each district is encouraged to identify a few core individuals other than GB and RPC members who will assist in disseminating MSAN information across the district and serve as advisors to MSAN scholars. The organization and structure of how MSAN students are selected and engaged throughout the year is up to discretion of the local district.

School Board Assembly

At different times during MSAN's history, school board members from across MSAN have convened to discuss their work in developing board policy that ensures district-wide equity and excellence. As needed, each MSAN District is asked to assign one school board member to act as a liaison between MSAN and the local school board.

Annual Membership Fee and Assessment

A membership fee will be invoiced annually. The fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. The current membership fee of \$15,000 per district was adopted by the Governing Board in May 2022. Prompt payment of the annual fee is appreciated since MSAN uses these funds for current year expenses.

Sponsorship and Development

Partnering with and supporting MSAN's sponsorship and development efforts is strongly encouraged but not required. MSAN collaborates with individuals and groups to seek grants for our work and sponsors for MSAN's great conferences and convenings. MSAN districts are encouraged to connect MSAN with local organizations and sponsors who may be interested in supporting MSAN's mission.

Professional Development

MSAN Institute

A team of six (6) staff from each member district including the superintendent are invited to attend the annual MSAN Institute. The focus of the MSAN Institute is twofold: developing equity-focused leadership and learning about the latest research, best practices and innovations in education related to educational equity. Registration costs for six (6) attendees from each district are included in MSAN fees. A reduced registration fee is charged for each attendee above the six (6). Non-MSAN districts pay a full registration fee.



Member districts are expected to contribute their experience and expertise to the content of all of MSAN's professional development offerings. The strength of the network is the opportunity to share, learn and grow together. Districts are given many opportunities throughout the year to share promising practices and information on new strategies they have implemented.

Student Leadership Development

Annual MSAN Student Conference

A team consisting of eight (8) high school students, grades 10 through 12, and two (2) adult chaperones from each member district attends the Annual MSAN Student Conference. Registration and lodging expenses are included in MSAN fees. Local districts pay travel costs for students and chaperones attending the Student Conference. A registration fee is charged for each attendee above the first ten (10) participants.

Participation in Research and Data Collection

MSAN is housed within the Wisconsin Center for Education Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Through its mission, MSAN continuously engages with researchers and practitioners as we learn and grow in the best ways to serve students of color. MSAN receives and reviews requests for MSAN district participation in research projects or studies. In most cases participation will be at the discretion of the local district but there will be times when the Governing Board may elect to engage all member districts in a research project. Details regarding any research projects undertaken by MSAN will be provided and shared with members. In all projects, measures will be taken to protect student and teacher confidentiality. It is the intent of MSAN to freely share its research findings, achievement data, and other data related to our mission and goals. To this end, all member districts are expected to contribute to two Network-wide databases: 1) the MSAN Clearinghouse of Promising Practices and 2) the MSAN Shared District Database.

The *Clearinghouse of Promising Practices* was developed to promote the extension and replication of practices and programs across MSAN districts that have shown promise in closing gaps and raising the achievement levels of students of color. The Clearinghouse is meant to streamline and inform local district research and development and enhance networking among various district roles (e.g., literacy coaches, principals, etc.). Information from these databases will be referred to often and is available to all MSAN members. The MSAN Shared District Database is comprised of disaggregated student enrollment and achievement data including, but not limited to state achievement test data, ACT, SAT and other relevant nationally-normed tests given by the district, drop out and/or graduation rates, district and school enrollment rates, and student course selection data (e.g., 8th and 9th grade algebra, AP and or International Baccalaureate course enrollment).

Membership Inactivity

Active participation by GB and RPC members in Network activities is an expectation of membership. If representatives from a district are not able to participate in primary Network activities including Governing Board meetings, RPC meetings, the MSAN Institute, the Student Conference, or other network activities for more than 24 months the district will be considered inactive and reconsideration of membership initiated. The success of a network such as ours is the active participation of all members.

(Updated 1/2024)