

[Youth-Dialogue-Session-Recruitment-Poster](#)

[Youth-Dialogue-Session-Nomination-Application-form](#)

ESDC's Supports for Student Learning Program (SSLP) is very excited to be hosting a series of youth virtual engagement sessions on systemic learning barriers and supports for youth in the fall of 2022.

The SSLP funds youth-serving organizations across the country to deliver after-school and extracurricular programming that helps youth to succeed in kindergarten-grade 12 and post-secondary education.

Over the past year, the SSLP contracted seven researchers to complete discussion papers on the systemic educational barriers that exist for the diverse groups of youth supported by SSLP funding including:

- Black youth;
- Indigenous youth;
- youth with disabilities;
- 2SLGBTQ+ youth;
- youth who have experienced or continue to experience homelessness;
- youth in foster care or youth who have exited foster care;
- youth facing challenges with digital access and technology.

### **Seeking participants for engagement sessions this fall**

We plan to host seven small-group virtual youth dialogue sessions in fall 2022 with the goal of strengthening and validating these research findings. We aim to ensure our evidence is grounded in the lived experiences of the diverse youth the SSLP seeks to serve through our funding. These dialogue sessions will bring together the researcher(s) who completed the research and 10-12 representative youth participants per session. A facilitator with extensive youth engagement expertise will guide the discussions. An Elder will also be present to open and close the sessions, offer their insights and reflections, and provide spiritual guidance to participants. There will also be 2-3 SSLP staff present at each dialogue session.

Any questions about this initiative can be directed to: [ESDC.SSLP.Engagement-Engagement.PSAE.EDSC@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca](mailto:ESDC.SSLP.Engagement-Engagement.PSAE.EDSC@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca)