

Guide to Partnering with Michigan Education Corps:



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This Guide contains important information about being a host site with Michigan Education Corps (MEC) Early Learning Corps. Questions about Early Learning Corps or site selection should be directed to Renee Borg at rborg@hopenetwork.org.

Early Learning Corps Overview

What are Early Learning Corps services?

- Early Learning Corps is an evidence-based, people-powered program that uses research and best practices in early literacy and numeracy skill development to meet the needs of students in the early learning environment. We train and support Interventionists to deliver the critical language, literacy and numeracy skills preschool children need to be ready for kindergarten. Interventionists serve alongside classroom teachers to deliver research-based interventions in the classroom, in small groups, or one-on-one with children.
- The Early Learning Corps model supports the implementation of a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework in early childhood. This model includes implementing class-wide literacy and numeracy skills using data to make instructional decisions for students.
- Early Learning Corps Interventionists provide support in both literacy and math, focusing on the skills listed below.

Early Language and Literacy Skills	Early Math Skills
Oral Language, Conversation, Comprehension Vocabulary and Meaning Book and Print Concepts Phonological Memory and Awareness Alphabetic Principle and Knowledge	Subitizing Object Counting Counting Based Comparisons Number After Knowledge Mental Comparisons Composing and Decomposing

- Site partners provide a staff person to be the Site Supervisor, who completes Early Learning Corps training and supports the tutors throughout the year. This person is called the Internal Coach.
- MEC provides an Early Learning Corps expert with educational experience or program experience, called a Coaching Specialist, to support the Internal Coach and Interventionist at the site.

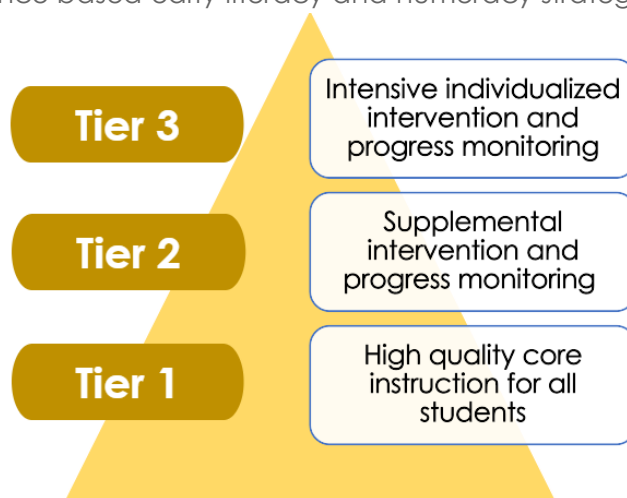
Who are Early Learning Corps Interventionists?

- Early Learning Corps Interventionists are AmeriCorps members who focus on equipping children with the skills needed for kindergarten to ensure they have a strong foundation when they start school. AmeriCorps is often referred to as the “domestic Peace Corps.”
- Early Learning Corps Interventionists are individuals engaged in a term of service, during the school year, to meet the needs of their local communities through AmeriCorps and are commonly referred to as “members” or “Interventionists.”
- Early Learning Corps Interventionists maintain a stable, regular schedule of hours at their assigned service site and are supervised by an Internal Coach at the site. Although Early Learning Corps Interventionists are part of the school community, they are **not** employees of the school and/or district and they may **not supplant** services provided by the site employees.
- Interventionists receive a competitive living allowance and earn hours of service toward an education award to pay educational expenses at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training, or to repay qualified student loans. For member's aged 55 years+, this award

may be gifted to a child, grandchild, foster child, or stepchild. Retired educators may serve as MEC Interventionist without forfeiting their pension.

Which students are eligible for Early Learning Corps services?

- The Early Learning Corps Interventionist is placed in one classroom and serves **all** the children in that room. An Interventionist can serve multiple sections of students, such as AM and PM, or in an all-day classroom.
- An Interventionist must be placed in a classroom that serves 3- to 5-year-old children, with **priority** on classrooms with 4- and 5-year-old children, as they are closer to entering Kindergarten.
- All students receive Tier 1 early literacy and numeracy support from the Interventionist. Children whose data indicate a need for additional support are eligible to receive Tier 2 (supplemental intervention with a small group of students) or Tier 3 (intensive and individualized intervention) instruction using evidence-based early literacy and numeracy strategies by the Interventionist.



What assessments are used by Early Learning Corps?

- Early Learning Corps uses brief skill inventories in literacy and numeracy that are administered by the Interventionist to all children in the classroom in the fall, winter, and spring.
- The literacy skill inventory administered is the Early Literacy Inventory, designed for preschool children (ages 3 to 5) and measures early literacy skills including alphabet knowledge, and phonological awareness. The measure is untimed and takes about 15 minutes to administer per child.
- The Early Math Inventory (EMI) is used to measure numeracy skills in 3-5-year-old students. It is untimed and takes 5-10 minutes.
- Children receiving intervention receive brief progress monitoring checks every two weeks, or 8-10 sessions. The purpose is to gauge student progress, the effectiveness of the intervention, and support the team with instructional, data-based decision making.

What Tier 1 strategies are used by Early Learning Corps?

- Early Learning Corps Tier 1 strategies are designed to support and not supplant core instruction in the classroom. The Early Learning Corps model is *not a curriculum and is core curriculum neutral*. It can be implemented with any research-based curriculum (e.g., Creative Curriculum, OWL, High Scope, etc.).
- Early Learning Corps Interventionists provide embedded and explicit language, literacy, and numeracy support to all students throughout their daily routines, including but not limited to: Arrival, Sign-in, Daily Message, Choice Time, Interactive Read Aloud, Journaling, Meal Time, Small Group, and Transitions.

- Early Learning Corps classrooms are expected to incorporate interactive read aloud into the daily routine. The same theme-related book is read daily for one week and talking, reading, writing, and math are incorporated into each reading to develop vocabulary and comprehension and early math skills.

What interventions are used by Early Learning Corps?

- At minimum, 7 children per class are identified to receive targeted literacy and/or numeracy interventions.
- Intervention is delivered in small groups or 1:1 for 10-15 minutes daily.
- Interventions used by Early Learning Corps include:
 - **Sound Awareness:** To increase skills in auditory discrimination, phonemic awareness, rhyming, and alliteration.
 - **Letter Identification:** To increase skills in auditory and visual discrimination, including letter names.
 - **Early Math (7 levels):** To increase skills in early numeracy, including subitizing, object counting, counting-based comparisons, number after knowledge, mental comparisons, composing and decomposing, and number after equals one more.

What empirical evidence exists to support Early Learning Corps?

- Two rigorous impact evaluations (using a quasi-experimental design method) found that students in classrooms with Early Learning Corps had significantly higher literacy scores on five separate literacy measures than students at highly similar comparison schools.
- A full summary of the evidence supporting Early Learning Corps can be found online through the [National Science and Service Collaborative](#)

Considerations for Partnership with Early Learning Corps

Early Learning Corps partners directly with preschool program providers and can thrive in a wide variety of contexts. Please consider the following before applying:

- Does your preschool program serve students ages 3-5 in a classroom setting? Priority will be given to classrooms with 4- and 5-year-old students.
- Is your site a Head Start, or GSRP school district early childhood programs, or nonprofit childcare programs (e.g., YWCA), or other type of preschool program?
 - For-profit childcare centers may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Is student contact time sufficient for an Interventionist schedule (30.0 hours per week)?
- Is there support for research-based literacy and numeracy interventions to occur during the school day?
- Is there a person on your staff with the interest, capacity, and time to serve as the Internal Coach?
Please go to page 10 for the “Description of Internal Coach” in this document and review. Review this with the identified staff person in advance of applying to host MEC interventionist(s). Ensure they understand the role and time commitment.
- The Internal Coach’s schedule for Early Learning Corps requires approx. 6-9 hours per Interventionist per month, which is 2-3 hours per week. How will the Internal Coach achieve this? Will other duties be reduced, for example?
- Internal Coaches complete up to at least five hours of training through a learning management system provided by MEC, and one-day of in-person training prior to the start of Early Learning Corps. When will the Internal Coach complete 5 (or more, if new) hours of required training through the learning management system? How will the Internal Coach be assured they attend one day of in-person training? Consider:
 - Do you need to compensate the Internal Coach for the time completing required training?
 - Do you need to compensate the Internal Coach for time spent on Early Learning Corps duties throughout the year?
 - Are there tasks/duties/responsibilities that need to be removed from this individual’s workload to accommodate Early Learning Corps duties?

Here are some other factors that are helpful to consider:

- What is the lead classroom teacher’s perspective on helping implement Early Learning Corps in the classroom?
- How many and which classrooms and teachers will be identified for Early Learning Corps Interventionist(s)?
- What is your current enrollment of preschool students? Do you predict significant changes for next year?
- What core curriculum are you currently using, if applicable, and what assessments do you use and for what purpose?
- Regular access to an electronic device, e.g., a computer, is required and must include a camera and microphone, along with login credentials.
- What secure (locked) storage may the Interventionist utilize (for student data, for personal items, etc.)?
- How is the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support model of service delivery utilized at your site?
- What local district or agency policies for partnerships will MEC need to follow? For example:
 - **Background checks.** MEC is required to run a federally mandated background checks for any MEC Interventionist prior to placement in a school. National Service Criminal History

Checks (NSCHC) is a baseline-screening requirement established by law to protect the beneficiaries of national service. MEC cannot and will not place an Interventionist without these checks being 100% complete and all checks being clear. MEC, nor Interventionists, may pay for additional background checks beyond what MEC is required to conduct. **If additional background checks are required by your district, that will be the responsibility of the school to cover that cost. Service Site assumes all responsibility for costs associated with additional district background checks. If additional district background checks are required, MEC expects to partner with your district to ensure these are completed before the AmeriCorps member start date in your schools/building to ensure no delay in service occurs.**

- **How and who will partner with MEC for Interventionist Recruitment.** MEC wants to partner with you to identify high quality interventionists in your community? MEC will provide you with digital resources to help support recruitment including social media posts, newsletter template, flyers and more. Who at the school or district can be a point of contact for an MEC Talent Acquisition staff members. Can open interventionist positions be posted on a district or site employment page or can the opportunity be shared on social media or the school newsletter?

Site Expectations in Implementing Early Learning Corps

1. **Identify Internal Coach:** Appoint an Internal Coach and allocate 2-3 hours/week or 6-9 hours/month per Interventionist for the person to complete training and fulfill the responsibilities of Early Learning Corps. Responsibilities include providing on-site supervision, approving bi-weekly timesheets, regular check-ins, coaching and general support of the Early Learning Corps Interventionist. Classroom teachers and administrators are typically not good candidates for the Internal Coach role because it is difficult to find time to conduct observations during the school day.
2. **Support Recruitment and Placement:** Collaborate with MEC staff to find high-quality Early Learning Corps Interventionists for your site. Most of our candidates are connected to the program by our site partners. Your participation in recruitment is very welcome (and essential!), as you are the experts in who is best for serving your kids at your school. Prioritize the placement of Early Learning Corps Interventionists in classrooms that serve 4- and 5-year-olds who are going to kindergarten the next year.
3. **Educate Lead Teachers and Staff:** Inform teachers and staff prior to the program start about the Early Learning Corps model to capture buy-in, support and shared understanding for implementation.
4. **Welcome Interventionist:** On day 1, provide a site orientation for the Interventionist. This includes welcoming the Interventionist to the site, introducing them to staff, and giving a tour (where do they put their lunch? Where are the restrooms? Where is the classroom?) Review school safety procedures and protocols (fire drills, tornado drills, lockdown drill, etc.).
5. **Implement the Model:** Provide a space for the Interventionist to use, including a locked storage cabinet (for files and personal items), a device, e.g., computer with working camera and microphone, and access to the site's internet with login credentials. Implement high quality literacy and numeracy activities throughout the day. The classroom teaching staff and Interventionist commit to building and embedding high quality, evidence-based routines into the daily schedule as listed below:
 - **Arrival:** Children are greeted daily.
 - **Sign-in/Name Writing:** Children write their names daily, with the support of an Interventionist or teacher.
 - **Mealtime:** Mealtime conversations with children are encouraged with an emphasis on theme-related vocabulary, language expansion activities and math talk.
 - **Large Group:** Children are provided an opportunity for large group learning.
 - **High Quality Read Aloud:** The teacher and/or Interventionist incorporate talking, reading, writing, and counting into each reading with the intention of developing vocabulary, comprehension, and early math skills.
 - **Tier 1 Small Group:** Interventionist lead a small group high quality read aloud at least once a week with all students in the classroom.
 - **Journal:** Children are given the opportunity to write and draw something of interest in a journal each week. Interventionists may also lead a small group Journaling activity at least once a week with all students in the classroom.
 - **Choice Time/Active Learning:** Children have time to make choices and pursue their own interests in a literacy and numeracy rich classroom.

- **Tier 2 & Tier 3 Interventions:** Interventionists implement Tier 2 (small group, 10-15 minutes, supplemental) or Tier 3 (one-on-one, 5-10 minutes, supplemental) with selected students daily.
 - **Transitions:** The Interventionist and/or teacher uses a song or rhyme focused on literacy or numeracy to transition children from one activity to the next.
 - **Family Engagement:** The family literacy and numeracy intervention, Talk, Read, Write, and Count with Me!, newsletters are sent home monthly to partner with families in talking, reading, writing, and counting at home.
 - * *Note: Early Learning Corps provides Talk, Read, Write, and Count with Me! materials are provided annually, but asks that the site be responsible for inventorying and housing extra materials from one program year to the next.*
6. **Provide Assessments:** Support the timely completion of benchmark assessments during the fall, winter and spring benchmark periods for children in Early Learning Corps classrooms. In addition, support bi-monthly progress monitoring by the Interventionist to guide instruction and interventions, along with collection of baseline data as applicable.
 7. **Schedule 5-15 minutes per day for communication** or schedule weekly meetings with MEC Interventionists.
 8. **Engage in Data-Driven Decision-Making:** Ensure successful implementation of Response to Intervention/Multi-Tiered Systems of Support data-driven decision-making process. Coordinate decisions about teaching strategies and intervention selection with the Internal Coach, Coaching Specialist, and/or teachers based on the needs of each individual child and/or groups of children.
 9. **Maintain Hours and Caseload:** Ensure that Early Learning Corps Interventionists consistently serve their minimum weekly hours and a minimum caseload of students to maximize the impact on the number of students served.
 10. **Provide demographic data & state-assigned student ID** number for students receiving Early Learning Corps services. Support the Early Learning Corps program in following federal (i.e., FERPA) and state regulations for data security and sharing. A detailed description of data required from the site for participating students is provided in the Early Learning Corps Site Agreement.
 11. **Communicate with Families:** Inform families/caregivers of students who are receiving Early Learning Corps services in collaboration with the Early Learning Corps Interventionist. Provide a mechanism for informing families/caregivers that their child is receiving Early Learning Corps services.
 12. **Ensure Accessibility:** Make sure the service site is accessible to people with disabilities.
 13. **Pay MEC Participation Fee.** See page 13 for more information.
 14. **Communicate with the Program:** Our program has a **performance management process** that applies to all MEC Interventionists. If an issue of concern arises that could be performance based or disciplinary, Internal Coaches should and are expected and encouraged to address those immediately and directly with the Interventionist and document the conversation. Internal coaches will then notify MEC staff, specifically a Program Director or Program Coordinator. MEC staff are always available to provide additional guidance. Details are provided in the AmeriCorps Program Orientation, documents, and training provided by MEC to Internal Coaches prior to the start of programming. If there are any questions, please contact Tom Bobo at tbobo@hopenetwork.org.

Description of Early Learning Corps Interventionists

Role Description: The Early Learning Corps Interventionists are embedded into a classroom of children ages 3 – 5 and serves alongside a teacher to develop children's early literacy and numeracy skills in preparation for Kindergarten.

Early Learning Corps Interventionist

Who is this person?	Someone recruited from the community – a recent college graduate, a parent, a retiree, etc.
What does the Interventionist do at the site?	The Interventionist collaborates with the classroom teaching staff to incorporate specific Early Learning Corps strategies into the daily routine.
Are there other things the Interventionist is expected to do?	The Interventionist is required to complete ongoing Early Learning Corps training and participate in professional development with their Coaches and/or MEC staff. Interventionists are required to complete data entry to track student progress that must be completed weekly. Interventionists may also participate in supplemental activities at their site or in their community with the approval of MEC Program staff. The Interventionist may not supplant an employee of the school or district.
What is the time commitment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-Time (FT) Interventionist serves 30.0 hours/week in a M-Th classroom, or 37.5 hours per week in a M-F classroom. <p>Cohorts of Interventionists start at designated times and commit to serving through the end of the school year. MEC will host two separate start dates: August 25, 2025, and October 20, 2025.</p>
What are the financial benefits?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-weekly, competitive living stipend • Segal AmeriCorps Education award up to \$5,176.50 to pay for college tuition or student loans • Student loan forbearance on federal loans • Health insurance (MEC pays monthly premium) and child care assistance (if eligible) (FT members only) • Member retention bonus for those who successfully complete their service term.
What are the non-financial benefits?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earn the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA). MEC provides a scholarship to cover all costs • Develop 21st century skills such as data-driven decision making, communication skills and problem solving • Participate in professional learning groups to explore various pathways to becoming a teacher and/or learn professional skills such as resume writing. • Make an impact on the community • Serve students every day through one-on-one, research-based interventions. • Gain resume-building professional experience • Learn early literacy and math intervention strategies • Play a vital role for children to help close reading achievement gaps and position them for long-term success in school and life
How do they get involved?	Complete an Early Learning Corps application online at mieducationcorps.org . Applications will open to the general public on April 1st. MEC will not begin actively sourcing candidates for placements at your school and/or extend offers to any candidate (including returning members) until the site agreement has been signed.

Description of Internal Coach

Role	The Internal Coach is designated by an administrator and will be trained by MEC to provide literacy and numeracy support and oversight to the Early Learning Corps Interventionists. Internal Coaches will uphold the Early Learning Corps model and act as a liaison between school staff, the Interventionists, and the program.
Person	<p>An Internal Coach is an employee of the partner site. An Internal Coach should have interest in and time available to dedicate to the program, including supporting members, completing required training, and participating in coaching sessions. It may be beneficial for an Internal Coach to be knowledgeable about interventions or early literacy instruction.</p> <p>Challenges occur when this responsibility is assigned to staff without creating dedicated time during school hours for Early Learning Corps coaching. Administrators should review the requirements of the Internal Coach position with assigned staff prior to completing a site application. Consider shared responsibilities among staff for the Internal Coach role. Connect with MEC if there are further questions.</p>
Time Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average of 6-9 hours of coaching and Interventionist support (including adequate supervision) <u>per classroom</u> per month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required training + coaching for 1 classroom = approx. 0.1 FTE Required training + coaching for 2 classrooms = approx. 0.15 FTE Required training + coaching for 3 classrooms = approx. 0.2 FTE
Training	Internal Coaches are required to complete up to 5 hours of training, plus 1 full day of in-person training, and will have access to additional information and professional development through our learning management system, if needed. Training information is sent to Internal Coaches before the start of the program year, and must be completed within 2 weeks of an Interventionist starting service at the school/site.
Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an on-site orientation for the Interventionist to introduce them to your site. This includes: • Develop and maintain positive relationships with Interventionist(s) and serve as the primary point of contact for Interventionist(s) at the school site level. Develop a frequency of formal and/or informal check-ins with Interventionist(s). • Develop a consistent weekly schedule with the Interventionist that accounts for the daily and weekly hour's commitment of their position: A full-time (FT) Interventionist serves 30.0 hours/week in a M-Th classroom, and 37.5 hours/week in a M-F classroom. Interventionists should work with a full caseload of students at any given time. If the school schedule does not allow for 30.0 or 37.5 hours/week, please reach out to Renee Borg at rborg@hopenetwork.org to discuss other options. • Provide support to allow the Interventionist to develop professionally throughout the year, including inviting the Interventionist to participate in professional development opportunities at the service site and in the community. • Observe Interventionist at least 1x/month using the Universal Intervention Integrity Observation Form • Work collaboratively with the Coaching Specialist and Interventionist to determine student intervention status according to ELC criteria • Attend Data Review Meetings 3x/year – includes review of RCDMS and fidelity checks. Attend additional meetings with Coaching Specialist as needed or requested by the site • Work closely with MEC program staff and site administration to proactively manage Interventionist performance and address issues as they arise. Interventionists are expected to adhere to site policies and procedures regarding confidentiality, safety, dress code, attendance, etc. • Complete a semi-annual online program survey and participate in semi-annual site visits with MEC program staff. Advance notice will be provided. • Approve Interventionist timesheets once every two weeks and complete an Interventionist performance evaluation two times per year <p>As needed, participate in special site visits to highlight and demonstrate the effectiveness of the Early Learning Corps program, as applicable. These site visits may include media, legislators, corporations, funders, MEC Advisory Board Members, etc.</p>

The Cost of Early Learning Corps

The chart below breaks down the cost associated with Early Learning Corps.

Description of cost	MEC pays	Site pays*
MEC Participation Fee**		✓
Interventionist recruitment efforts	✓	
Background checks on Interventionists	✓	***
Interventionist living allowance & benefits	✓	
Worker's Compensation / AD&D policy for Interventionists	✓	
Interventionist transportation costs to attend Early Learning Corps required training	✓	
Interventionist transportation costs to attend site-required training (if applicable)		✓
Cost of including Interventionists in site-sponsored training		✓
Misc. supplies used by Interventionist (e.g. markers, photocopies, paper, stickers)		✓
Computer with video camera, and Internet access for Interventionist and Internet access for Interventionist (whether in-person or virtual)		✓
Work space for the Interventionist, including locked storage cabinet (in-person)		✓
Salary of Internal Coach to fulfill Early Learning Corps responsibilities, including required training		✓
Salary of MEC Coaching Specialist and Program Staff to fulfill Early Learning Corps program responsibilities	✓	
Early Learning Corps manual, along with assessment & intervention materials	✓	
Expenses related to Internal Coach attendance at Early Learning Corps trainings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training content fees for regularly schedule Early Learning Corps trainings • Training content fees for make-up Early Learning Corps trainings (approx. \$75/hr.) • Travel expenses, if applicable (e.g. mileage, pay, etc.) 	✓	✓
Salary of Internal Coach to attend training days, if applicable		✓

* The expenses incurred by a site for participating in Early Learning Corps are considered in-kind contribution by the site. If this is a barrier to partnership, please contact the MEC Executive Director, Dr. Holly Windram, at hwindram@hopenetwork.org.

** MEC charges a \$6,500 per Interventionist fee for each Interventionist awarded to each school. Example funding options include Title 1, General funds, etc.

***If site or district policy requires a background check above and beyond what is conducted by MEC, that fee is not paid by the MEC, nor may it be passed on to the Interventionist. **It is expected the site or district will cover any additional background checks.**

Michigan Education Corps Participation Fee

MEC is non-profit. MEC charges a \$6,500 fee per Interventionist as part of the agreement with sites to receive the Early Learning Corps program. The fee is \$6,500 per interventionist whether Part-Time or Full-Time. This fee helps cover expenses to recruit, onboard, train and coach a new Interventionist prior to them starting to tutor students at a school. It also supports providing members a living allowance and benefits, e.g., health insurance, to maintain a basic standard of living. Example funding options for the participation fee include Title I, General School Fund, etc. MEC will also work with schools to approach community partners to cover this and/or additional costs as needed.

MEC does not reimburse the \$6,500 participation fee once an Interventionist has tutoring minutes (regardless of how many minutes) with one or more students. If an Interventionist starts at a school and then leaves of their own accord or is dismissed by MEC staff (i.e. after a few weeks or even a few months), MEC will work diligently to replace that Interventionist. MEC will not charge an additional participation fee for the replacement Interventionist. *It is prohibited for schools to hire the Interventionist while they are serving their AmeriCorps term of service. MEC will not reimburse a school or district if the AmeriCorps member is hired by the school or district, nor will MEC replace the Interventionist, unless school or district is willing to pay the full program cost for an Interventionist.*

In some cases, a part-time Interventionist can only replace a full-time Interventionist. There is no participation fee reduction if a school has a full-time Interventionist and that Interventionist must be replaced with a part-time Interventionist. MEC will work with sites on a case-by-case basis and strive for minimal disruption to the amount of Early Learning Corps service provided with Interventionist transitions if they occur. Further, if MEC can replace a full-time Interventionist with two part-time Interventionists, MEC will not charge an additional participation fee for the additional, second Interventionist. Finally, if MEC is unable to place Interventionists with the fully awarded request, MEC will only charge for the number of Interventionists actually placed at the school.

In summary, MEC will charge the participation fee one time for each unique Interventionist awarded to a service site and only when the individual has tutoring minutes with one or more students (regardless of how many minutes) at their site.

When a school site is awarded with the requested number of Interventionists and the site agreement is signed, and then the *school later requests fewer* number of Interventionists or terminates the site agreement during the program year, MEC **WILL CHARGE** the participation fee for the number of Interventionists agreed upon in the site agreement. If a site terminates the site agreement during the current school year, MEC holds the right to decide future partnerships with the school.

Next Steps to Partnering with Early Learning Corps

Prepare to Submit Your Application

- Identify a staff member to serve as an Internal Coach, and review the expected responsibilities as described on page 10. Consider shared responsibilities between two staff members.
- Identify a staff member to be a Recruitment Contact and Interview Contact (if different).
- Determine the number of Early Learning Corps Interventionists to apply. Typically, one to two Interventionists are placed at a site.
- Watch the brief [Site Onboarding training course](#). Share this with the identified Internal Coach, teachers, and other relevant staff.
- [Complete and submit your site application](#). Site applications are due on March 7th for review and award decisions will be made on March 26th. Site applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis after March 7th.

After You Apply

- Receive email communication with site award decisions and relevant details.
- Communicate with MEC program staff to further discuss the partnership.
- Begin recruiting using the recruitment launch kit (provided to the recruitment contact listed on the site application *after* the site agreement is signed and received).

Returning Sites - Items to Consider for your Internal Coach Selection

- Was the selected Internal Coach able to fulfill the time commitment, roles and responsibilities for the award Interventionist(s) in the current 2024-25 program year?
- Was the selected Internal Coach able to attend data review meetings?
- Was the selected Internal Coach able to complete the required number of fidelity checks?
- Was the selected Internal Coach timely in the approval of timesheets and Interventionist(s) evaluations?

Before the Program Year Begins

- Sign the Site Agreement and return to Renee Borg at rborg@hopenetwork.org. Return signed Site Agreement by **due date of April 25, 2025**.
- Ensure the Internal Coach is ready to complete program-required tasks and training and has the capacity to dedicate 6-9 hours per member, per month. Consider shared responsibilities among staff for the Internal Coach role. Connect with MEC if there are further questions.
- Educate school staff about Early Learning Corps.
- Prepare to welcome Early Learning Corps Interventionist(s) to your site by determining a designated workspace and **communicating with the Early Learning Corps Interventionist(s) once they are selected and prior to the start of the training**. Interventionist contact information will be emailed 1 week prior to the start of training.