

### Q17. Connecticut High-Dosage Tutoring Program: Approved Tutor Provider Survey

The purpose of this survey is to build a list of 3-5 high-quality tutor providers to support Connecticut's High-Dosage Tutoring (HDT) program. The HDT program is a new state initiative that aims to implement a research-based model to accelerate mathematics recovery for priority students in Grades 6-9 in SY2023. Recognizing the challenge of recruiting and training individuals to provide tutoring services in middle- and high-school math, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) invites organizations to submit information that can be shared with local education agencies participating in the HDT program.

Please refer to the associated [HDT Vendor Survey Guidance Document](#) for more information regarding this program and the assessment process. The application questions in this Qualtrics survey can also be found in this Document.

Survey responses for each question should be limited to a max of 200 words. Submissions will be accepted until April 7, 2023 at 5:00PM.

Q1. Organization Name:

Varsity Tutors for Schools LLC

Q2. Organization Address:

101 S. Hanley Road, Suite 300

Q3. Organization Website:

www.varsitytutorsforschools.com

Q4. Organization Point of Contact Name:

Mark Hastings

Q18. Organization Point of Contact Role:

Sr. Director of Educational Partnerships

Q19. Organization Point of Contact Email:

mark.hastings@varsitytutors.com

Q20. Organization Point of Contact Phone Number:

781-608-0649

Q6. Briefly describe your organization, including its mission, leadership, years of operation, number of students served, and other notable points.

Varsity Tutors for Schools LLC (VTS) is pleased to provide our application for the Connecticut Department of Education's (CDE) High Dosage Tutoring Program. Varsity Tutors was founded in 2007 and has delivered personalized tutoring and other learning services from highly-vetted subject matter experts for more than one million students. Our solution offers a purpose-built proprietary platform that leverages AI to connect students to experts in more than 3,000 subjects to highly vetted subject matter experts. Through 1-on-1 instruction, including high-dosage tutoring, Small Group Classes, large format group classes, and adaptive self-study, Varsity Tutors has created a virtual learning destination to meet the needs of all students. Varsity Tutors for Schools LLC was formed in 2021 as a dedicated entity to deliver tutoring solutions to schools. We work with more than 100 schools and districts to provide live, evidence-based tutoring services that focus on remediating unfinished learning and closing learning gaps equitably for students. Our track record of success includes the following: • In 2020, we delivered 4.7 million hours of live instruction with an unparalleled ability to provide virtual live tutoring at such a large scale. • Varsity Tutors serves millions of students across the U.S. • We engage 40,000+ highly qualified tutors with subject matter expertise in K-12 subjects. • Tutoring applicants undergo a rigorous application and vetting process.

Q6. Provide an overview of the tutoring services your organization provides, including grade levels, time of day, content areas, frequency, teacher-student ratio, and instructional model, including in-person or virtual.

VTS provides a wide range of virtual-only tutoring services delivered in three (3) primary modalities: • High-Dosage Tutoring. We deliver our HDT offering, the most effective model based on research, as scheduled sessions, occurring multiple times per week in 45-60-minute sessions for a set duration, in 1-on-1 or in small groups of up to five (5) students. • 24/7 On-Demand Tutoring. Our chat-based offering provides tutoring and homework help for students anytime, anywhere, upon request. Students have the option to schedule a drop-in session should they need more. • Teacher Assigned Tutoring™. Exclusively available only from VTS, this district-wide offering provides high-dosage tutoring scheduled by teachers for any students as they need it. This solution also includes our On-Demand Tutoring for all learners. These models can be delivered for all grade levels (K-12) in more than 3,000 subject areas including reading, math, science, social studies, and various specific high school subjects (e.g., ELA, Algebra, Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, U.S. History, etc.). Tutoring can be delivered in any interval (e.g., any number of sessions per week) at any time (before, during, or after-school, and on evenings and weekends). Virtual tutoring sessions are delivered via our proprietary, highly secure Live Learning Platform (LLP). We support all our tutoring programs with a dedicated Customer Service Management (CSM) team that works with each district client.

Q22. Briefly describe the curriculum, digital tools/online platforms (including how students access the platform), and instructional materials your organization uses and how they align to Tier 1 instruction and Connecticut Core Standards. Please also include middle and high school math programs your organization/tutors are familiar with.

Tutors utilize curriculum resources the district is currently using to ensure a close alignment between tutoring and classroom instruction. Additionally, our Learning Lab includes practice items and resources fully aligned to the Connecticut Core Standards. With over 250,000 skill practice problems, the Learning Lab leverages student learning plans to guide students through skill development. VTS has been working with several districts in Connecticut including Waterbury Public Schools, Bristol Schools, Naugatuck School District, Windsor Lock Public Schools, and Amistad Schools. We review each of the CT Core Standards and align our practice items accordingly to the skills covered at each grade level. Tutors utilize the Learning Lab to assign short progress monitoring measures for students. Students can access the Learning Lab items for continued practice and skill building. Tutors work with curriculum including: • Carnegie Learning • Savaas Learning – enVision Math • McGraw-Hill – Arrive Math, Reveal Math, ALEKS • iXL Math • DreamBox Learning • HMH – Math 180, Go Math, Math Expressions • Renaissance Learning – STAR Math • iReady • Edmentum Tutors can also be trained on any new math programs or programs we have not yet encountered. Our internal operations team provides ongoing resources for tutors to help them learn new curriculum when needed. Our materials are appropriate for all learners support instruction at Tier 1, 2, or 3.

Q8. Describe the tutors your organization employs, the training they receive (including pre-service and in-service training, cultural-competency training, and bilingual competencies, especially related to supporting Spanish-speaking students), and their experience working with high-needs students (students with disabilities, students receiving Free- or Reduced-Priced Meals, and English Language Learners). Are your tutors experienced in leading tutoring sessions without the supervision of school staff?

Varsity Tutors for Schools has extensive experience operating tutoring programs that service at-risk student populations. VTS tailors each program to meet the unique needs of our clients. This means we can deliver tutors to support all students, including students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged, and English language learners. Our Dedicated Learning Differences team ensures that each student gets the differentiated support they need, including matching students with qualified instructors trained in teaching students with learning differences (e.g., ADD/ADHD, dyslexia, autism, ELL/ESL, and other learning differences), in specific reading intervention methods (e.g., Orton-Gillingham, Lindamood-Bell, Susan Barton, and the Wilson Method), executive functioning and enrichment. Students with special needs receive a personalized approach from an educator who knows where to focus and work with IEPs and 504 plan accommodations. Our program for The School District of Osceola County, Florida, for example, supports homeless and displaced students with academic and social-emotional needs. The VTS operations team creates training modules for tutors on a variety of topics including instructional practices, data-driven instruction, content and standards, working with special needs learners and populations, and general session management. Tutors have access to training 24/7 and we are constantly creating new modules to expand our training and PD options for tutors.

**Q9.** Describe how your organization uses data-driven instruction, formative assessments, formative assessment practices during the tutoring sessions, and other tools to gauge student learning and growth.

Students begin their experience by taking the VTS adaptive diagnostic assessment, which generates a personalized learning plan (PLP) for each student. Diagnostic reports provide in-depth summaries of student achievement and content mastery. Learning plans identify student strengths and weaknesses, determine skill mastery by grade level and provide insight into where students need the most support to reach grade-level benchmarks. Tutors tailor instructional strategies to fit each student's unique needs and learning style, increasing student engagement and maximizing progress toward desired learning outcomes. The Live Learning Platform enables tutors to deliver evidence-based instruction by directly integrating each student's personalized learning plan into the virtual classroom to focus on the right skills and access relevant practice problems at their fingertips during the tutoring session. Tutors can select the skill they are teaching right from the learning plan and add practice problems to the session in real time. Access to this content enables the flexibility of instruction. It allows tutors to adapt in real-time to deliver meaningful instruction that meets the student where they are in their learning. Tutors also assign progress monitoring measures in the form of Exit Tickets – short quizzes that students are given following a tutoring session to determine if the concepts covered in that session were absorbed.

**Q10.** Describe how your tutors collaborate and communicate with teachers, families, and school officials to maximize the impact of tutoring and student learning outside of regular tutoring sessions.

Tutors can communicate and collaborate with various stakeholders through a variety of mechanisms. Our Live Learning Platform includes embedded messaging tools allowing tutors to communicate with stakeholders through a secure mechanism. Additionally, recordings of instructional sessions and tutor notes are also available for parents, teachers, and administrators to access as needed. Our Customer Success Management (CSM) team coordinates with administrators, educators, and parents through webinars and "town meeting" sessions to ensure all constituents are well informed of what is happening with their students' tutoring. The CSM team can arrange for additional webinars and other interactive sessions as needed.

**Q11.** Describe any relevant experience working in Connecticut public school districts.

Varsity Tutors for Schools has experience working with several districts throughout Connecticut – the largest of these is Waterbury Public Schools ([link to press article](#)). We also work with Bristol Schools, Naugatuck School District, Windsor Lock Public Schools, and Amistad Schools.

**Q13.** If available, please provide any data or evaluations of your tutoring model as evidence of the program's overall effectiveness. Data showcasing progress made in middle and/or high school math is of particular value to this project.

VTS collaborates with a third party evaluation organization, Learn Platform, to monitor the effectiveness of our offerings. We are currently ESSA Level 3 certified and will be ESSA Level 2 in the summer 2023. In a case study – these were the initial findings: Students who choose Varsity Tutors require just-in-time results to support very near-term interventions; therefore, instead of pre-test - tutoring - post-test sequence, we use a baseline plus mastery quotient approach to measure outcomes. We measure mastery of students at a skill level. Mastery is defined as the probability that a student has learned that skill given the student's responses to specific questions targeted to assess that skill (80% or higher is classified as mastering a skill). Overall, we found that our academic support, which included assessment, one-on-one tutoring, and asynchronous assignments, resulted in substantial gains in skill mastery and improved learning outcomes. 91% of students (n > 14,800) turned unmastered skills based on baseline assessments into a mastered state. With Varsity Tutors' academic support program, 86% of students in first through eighth grade, who lacked significant requisite Math skills and were classified as behind grade level, reached grade level benchmark mastery in Math. We saw similar results for students whose English Language Arts skills were below grade level. 84% reached ELA mastery with Varsity Tutors. Additional studies are available upon request.

Q14. Please provide an estimate of your organization's cost per pupil.

We have provided estimated service costs as follows. Cost estimates are for 60 minute sessions, but we can provide tutoring in 45 or 90 minute sessions as well: • 1-on-1 sessions = \$60 • Group sessions (up to 4 students) = \$35 per student • Teacher Assigned (annual license fee) = \$200 per student (This model is exclusive to VTS – it provides our 24/7 on demand chat-based tutoring for all students while allowing teachers to assign high-dosage tutoring sessions (1-on-1 or small group) to students as needed. This model requires a minimum number of students, typically a district-wide implementation)

Q15. Is your organization currently under contract with a Connecticut district?

Yes, VTS is currently under contract in several districts throughout Connecticut including: Waterbury Public Schools, Bristol Schools, Naugatuck School District, Windsor Lock Public Schools, and Amistad Schools.

Q16. Is your organization currently under contract with another state? If yes, please upload the current contract.

Q25. Please use this space to upload any relevant data or evaluations you would like to include for consideration.

[Varsity Tutors Southern California Research Study Report 2023.pdf](#)

151.7KB

application/pdf

Q23. Click the button below to submit your application. Be sure to retain a copy of your application for your records!

**Location Data**

**Location:** ([40.6496, -74.3505](#))

**Source:** GeolIP Estimation

