

# PROFESSIONAL SUMMER LEARNING COMMUNITIES HEALTH SCIENCES



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## CREATING PATHWAYS TOWARDS HEALTH EQUITY

Diversity is a vital lever we must pull as a nation towards health equity. Improved diversity enables healthcare providers to meet the unique social, cultural, and linguistic needs of their patients. For young people of color, diversity creates pathways towards rewarding careers, in which they can make a positive impact on people's lives. While studies highlight the many benefits of diversity in delivering high quality healthcare, the U.S. lags far behind. According to [The New England Journal of Medicine](#), Black male medical students accounted for just 2.9 percent of the national medical student body in 2019. Without the contribution of historically Black medical schools, just 2.4% would be Black men.

**The National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) Health Sciences PLC is comprised of committed organizations seeking ways to create pathways for students seeking careers in the health sciences field. Our goal is to harness the power of diversity to improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities disproportionately affecting people of color.**

Planned, led, and facilitated by NSLA Field Consultants, the PLC will:

- Regularly convene as a community of mutual learning and best practice sharing
- Hold virtual meetings, 1 all day in-person retreat at NSLA's Annual Conference
- Cover key topics such as Program Planning, Student & Staff Recruitment, Fundraising, Evaluation, Policy, and Partnerships
- Create access to summer internship opportunities

## WHO SHOULD JOIN THIS PLC?

Youth-serving programs engaging middle, high school, or college students of color who are interested in healthcare or other related STEM careers.

## Join Our PLC Today



**PLC LEADER**  
**Jake Weinfeld**  
NSLA Field Consultant

Email Jake at [STEMHealth@summerlearning.org](mailto:STEMHealth@summerlearning.org) to learn how you can join this professional summer learning community.

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Our mission is to ensure that all young people in America, regardless of their background, income or zip code, can participate in, and benefit from, a high quality summer learning experience every year

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