

The Ed Portal is a collaboration between Harvard University, the City of Boston, and the Allston and Brighton neighborhoods. The Harvard Ed Portal is a transformative place where Allston-Brighton residents, the City of Boston and Harvard University come together, share ideas, and learn from one another.

Membership Criteria

Residents of the Allston & Brighton neighborhoods of Boston, and families with a student(s) enrolled at the Gardner Pilot Academy (GPA) are eligible for a free membership to the Harvard Ed Portal. When a member moves out of the Allston or Brighton neighborhood, or leaves the GPA their membership will immediately end, and they will no longer be eligible to participate in Member-only programming. The Ed Portal expects that members will update, as needed, their mailing address, email address, telephone numbers, and their designated emergency contact.

Event and Program Registration

The Ed Portal may, on occasion, introduce event and program attendance requirements such as:

- submission of an application
- pre-registration
- the completion of work in advance of attendance
- on-time arrival

All program participants, including members, agree to abide by any event or program specific requirements the Ed Portal may determine appropriate.

COVID-19 Policies

Vaccination

- COVID vaccination and receipt of a COVID booster are NOT REQUIRED to attend an in-person Ed Portal program or to visit the Crossings Gallery.
- However, members of the public are encouraged to remain up-to-date with vaccinations (COVID-19, flu, RSV, etc..) before traveling to the Harvard Ed Portal for a program or to visit the Crossings Gallery.

Face Coverings

- Face coverings are optional for participants in most Ed Portal programs. Please be respectful of those who choose to wear a face covering.

- Program participants will be required to wear a face covering when local case numbers are elevated, and when a face covering is necessary for programmatic or operational reasons. When a face covering is required, the Ed Portal will provide as much advanced warning as possible.
- When required, requests for exception from the face covering policy for medical reasons must be submitted for consideration in advance of traveling to the Ed Portal. Please email us at edportal@harvard.edu.
- When required, face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth of the wearer and must provide a tight fit against the face.

Additional Policies

- Visitors are encouraged to practice good hygiene while at the Ed Portal (cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing, regularly use the hand sanitizer, etc.).
- Visitors must not be under quarantine or self-isolation, as requested by a doctor or public health official.
- To help protect visitors and staff, members of the public are asked to stay home if they are unwell or have experienced signs of illness* in the past 24-hours.

** Signs of illness include: fever, chills or feeling feverish; a new cough (not related to chronic condition); new fatigue; muscle or body aches; sore throat; new nasal congestion or new runny nose (not related to seasonal allergies); nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.*

Ed Portal Space Closures

The Ed Portal on occasion limits access to all or parts of the Ed Portal space for programmatic or safety reasons. All visitors to the Ed Portal space agree to abide by instruction from Ed Portal staff and relevant signage regarding closures, limited access, and space occupancy limits.

Supervision of Children

Unless childcare is specifically provided or a child is enrolled in an Ed Portal program, no child under the age of 14 may be left unsupervised by a parent or guardian in the Ed Portal space. →

Behavior Requirement

Anyone engaging in behavior that endangers, threatens, offends, or disrupts Ed Portal visitors, program participants, or staff will be asked to leave virtual or in-person programming, and/or the Ed Portal building.

Respectful Use – Ed Portal Building

All visitors to the Ed Portal agree to respect the Ed Portal's physical space at all times by:

- not engaging in behaviors that risk damaging or defacing the Ed Portal building or space
- agreeing to share the space with other visitors and guests
- not leaving personal belongings unattended
- cleaning up after themselves in furtherance of maintaining a clean and tidy Ed Portal
- not sleeping or napping inside of the Ed Portal

Respectful Use – Behavior in Programming

- Program participants may only join in-person or virtual programs and events that they have successfully registered for. If applicable, individuals who access a program or event without first successfully registering will be asked to leave or denied entry.
- Virtual program participants should identify themselves using their full given name for the duration of a program. Using someone else's name or a name that contains offensive or obscene content will result in a participant's expulsion from a program.
- Program participants are expected to remain engaged and attentive for the duration of a program. Anyone sleeping during an in-person or virtual program may be asked to leave.
- Program participants are expected to join Ed Portal programming appropriately groomed and dressed. Anyone wearing inappropriate attire during a program will be asked to leave.
- The use of profanity or obscenities in any form, or the display of inappropriate or lewd content will result in immediate removal from Ed Portal in-person or virtual programming.
- Verbal abuse, or behavior that threatens, offends, disrupts or harasses other program participants, program facilitators, or Ed Portal staff will result in immediate removal from a program.

Use and Possession of Prohibited Items

The possession and/or use of any items or products prohibited under Federal and/or Massachusetts Law is strictly forbidden while inside the Ed Portal, while on Harvard property, or while participating in virtual Ed Portal programming.

Use and Possession of Drugs

Harvard University (including the Ed Portal), consistent with federal and state law, prohibits the consumption, possession, use, and sale of illicit drugs and alcohol, including the misuse (sharing, buying, or using in a manner different than prescribed) of prescription drugs. The Ed Portal reserves the right to deny in-person or virtual entry to anyone displaying inappropriate behavior, including belligerence or intoxication. Additionally, Ed Portal staff may ask individuals acting inappropriately, belligerently, or who are suspected of being intoxicated to leave the Ed Portal property and/or an Ed Portal virtual program.

Use and Possession of Alcohol

The possession and/or consumption of alcohol while inside the Ed Portal or on Ed Portal property, outside of an Ed Portal event that is serving alcohol, is forbidden. The consumption of alcohol is also prohibited while in an Ed Portal virtual program without express approval. The Ed Portal reserves the right to deny in-person or virtual entry to anyone displaying inappropriate behavior, including belligerence or intoxication. Additionally, Ed Portal staff may ask individuals acting inappropriately, belligerently, or who are suspected of being intoxicated to leave the Ed Portal property and/or an Ed Portal virtual program.

Smoking

Smoking, vaping and the use of cannabis and tobacco are not permitted inside of the Ed Portal, on Ed Portal property, or while in an Ed Portal virtual program. The use of all smoke-related products including e-cigarettes, cigars, vaporizers, tobacco and its derivatives, and cannabis and its derivatives are prohibited.

Pets

Pets are not permitted in the Ed Portal. Service animals are permitted with presentation of an official certification upon arrival.

Bikes and Scooters

Bikes and scooters (unless required by persons with a mobility impairment) are not permitted inside of the Ed Portal. Visitors are asked to utilize the several bike racks around the exterior of the Ed Portal building.

Illness

To help protect visitors and staff, members of the public are asked to stay home if they are unwell or have experienced signs of illness* in the past 24-hours.

** Signs of illness include: fever, chills or feeling feverish; a new cough (not related to chronic condition); new fatigue; muscle or body aches; sore throat; new nasal congestion or new runny nose (not related to seasonal allergies); nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.*