

FOR EDUCATORS

Facilitator Quick Start

What to know before leading the four-session Civic Lab

WHAT YOU ARE LEADING

A structured public-problem inquiry for NYC students in grades 9-12. The core version requires four 75-90 minute sessions, one adult facilitator, the provided readings, and an authentic audience.

No technology purchase, prompting lesson, or student use of generative AI is required.

BEFORE SAYING YES

- A school or CBO staff member owns scheduling and student safeguards.
- The group has a stable meeting time and a named final audience.
- Families and students receive a plain-language description.
- Data, recording, and any AI-tool use follow institutional policy; students may disagree without penalty.

FACILITATOR STANCE

Do not ask whether AI is simply good or bad. Help students distinguish technologies, users, ages, purposes, conditions, and consequences.

- 1 What human capability are we trying to protect or strengthen?
- 2 Who makes this decision, and who is missing?
- 3 What evidence supports the claim?
- 4 Who owns the data, infrastructure, and value?
- 5 What rule could be implemented, reviewed, and changed?

STUDENT SAFEGUARDS

- Never enter personal or sensitive student information into an AI system.
- Do not require accounts on unapproved platforms.
- Treat AI output as an object of investigation, not an authority; disclose approved AI use.
- Preserve a no-AI path and avoid collecting data the lab does not need.

COMPLETION

Each team submits a clear, evidence-based recommendation with stakeholder impacts, ownership analysis, implementation rules, uncertainty or disagreement, and a review date. The audience responds to the work.