

YOUR CIVIC CHALLENGE

AI in Schools

Emergencies create emergent opportunities.

Artificial intelligence is already changing how people learn, work, make art, find information, and make decisions. New York City is deciding what role AI should play in public schools.

Those decisions will affect you. Students should not merely be governed by AI policy. You should help shape it.

How should New York City govern artificial intelligence in public education so that it protects human learning, prepares young people for an AI-shaped economy, and expands opportunity?

YOUR JOB

Do not try to prove that AI is good or bad. Investigate what different forms of AI do, who benefits, who carries the risks, and what rules would serve students and the public.

WHAT YOU WILL INVESTIGATE

- What kinds of AI are already present in school and daily life?
- What helps people learn, and what gets in the way?
- What should students, families, and teachers be able to know or refuse?
- Who owns the data, technology, and work created with it?
- Who makes the rules, and whose voice is missing?
- What would fair access and meaningful preparation look like?

WHAT YOU WILL MAKE

- 1 Define one specific decision.
- 2 Map the people and institutions involved.
- 3 Gather evidence and listen to lived experience.
- 4 Compare possible approaches.
- 5 Recommend rules, rights, responsibilities, and safeguards.
- 6 Present your work to people who can respond.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE AN AI EXPERT

You can complete the Civic Lab without using generative AI. Curiosity, careful listening, evidence, judgment, and collaboration matter more than technical expertise.