

2024 – 2025 School Year FAQs

**ABOUT *UNDERSTANDING* *MENTAL WELLNESS:***

**Q: What Subject Matter Experts were consulted during the development of the course?**

**A:** EVERFI’s in-house experts, [Dr. Dan Zapp](https://everfi.com/bio/dan-zapp/), alongside external SMEs, [Victor Schwartz with the Jed Foundation](https://www.jedfoundation.org/people/dr-victor-schwartz/), and [Ross Szabo.](http://rossszabo.com/)

**Q: Can I see a demo of the course?**

**A:** Yes!

The demo can be found here:

1. Visit [www.everfi.net](http://www.everfi.net/)
2. Enter these login credentials:
3. username: hcahealthcaredemo
4. password: Everfi2024!
5. Click "sign in"
6. 4). Once you are on the student dashboard, click "get started" next to the course icon.

**Q: Is *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* an evidence-informed prevention program?**

**A:** Yes. All the contributing content and theories behind the development of the program come from well-known frameworks in the fields of psychology, education, and public health. For example, many coping strategies shared with students throughout the course are rooted in cognitive behavioral therapy. A rigorous literature review was conducted in advance of course development, and objectives were measured and developed based on National Health Education Standards.

**Q: Is this content appropriate for younger audiences?**

**A:** EVERFI’s team of instructional designers and SMEs have created the course to be best implemented with students in Grades 8 - 10. But the EVERFI model allows for flexibility in how the course is ultimately implemented, which gives educators the opportunity to determine the best fit. In the 2023 - 2024 school year, approximately 14% of implementation occurred in 7th grade or younger. Because the content and vocabulary is specifically designed for 8-10th grade, we typically don’t recommend it’s implemented any younger than 6th grade. We also sometimes see it implemented with older grades as it fits better into the curriculum for 11th or 12th grade.

**IMPLEMENTATION & CURRICULUM:**

**Q: Can I get a list of teachers implementing *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* in my footprint?**

**A:** We do not share Personally Identifiable Information (PII) externally. EVERFI must receive permission, in writing, from the teacher to allow us to share any contact information.

**Q: How do teachers typically work the *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* program into their curriculum?**

**A:** There are a variety of implementation strategies utilized for this program, all very dependent on the individual school and district. The EVERFI implementation team works with teachers and administrators to determine the best curriculum fit and integration strategy for their goals. Here are some common implementation scenarios we see with this course:

* Health Class: Teachers using the modules during class time to cover the basics of mental health. Some teachers will use the curriculum on back-to-back days to introduce or wrap-up their mental health unit, others will use the modules over the course of a few weeks as they work through their mental health unit.
* Health Careers Class: Same implementation options as #1 except in a different context
* Advisory Period: School Administrators and Counselors using the course during an "Advisory/Homeroom Period" where students are receiving lessons on mental health, drug/alcohol awareness, digital safety, etc

**Q: Does EVERFI require an MOU or contract from a school or district before implementing the course?**

**A:** EVERFI's implementation model relies on creating a burden-free environment for implementation and establishing strong relationships both at the school and district level, so we do not utilize school MOUs for our programs. With our programs, we find that requiring an MOU before implementing the course can slow down or completely prevent adoption.

**Q:** **What resources exist for parents?**

**A:** Because EVERFI doesn’t have a direct relationship with the parent network, we rely on the teachers/administrators to pass along information. We do have a parent letter that we will customize for HCA and share with educators as a resource. We also have a parent toolkit including discussion guide and parent/student activities. This toolkit is shared with the teachers by the EVERFI implementation team. We are exploring other resources to consider for a more direct connection between HCA and parents (ex: adult-focused interactive learning modules on speaking about mental health with your teen) and would welcome ideas from, and discussion with, HCA.

**Q: I have a contact who I think would be interested in learning more about the program. Where should I send them?**

**A:** If you would like to make an introduction to our local implementation team, please use the “[Referral Form](https://resources.everfi.com/toolkits/hca-healthcare-everfi-program-resource-page/#outreach)” to submit the information (found on the [Resource Page](https://resources.everfi.com/toolkits/hca-healthcare-everfi-program-resource-page/)) If you just want to point them to our platform, you can send them to: <http://www.everfi.com/newteacher>

**Q: Why would a district have piloted *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* already?**

**A:** In many cases, EVERFI has worked with districts across the country to implement one of the twenty available EVERFI resources (covering topics such as financial education, career readiness, and substance abuse education). As such, we’ve developed strong relationships with teachers and district-level administrators, which helps us more successfully implement new resources when they are introduced by sponsors. Due to the overall need for mental health education in recent years, and some state-specific mandates, we’ve received requests from some districts to pilot *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* with their students. To support our network of educators, we’ve responded to those requests by opening up the resource to select schools across those districts. [See next Question to understand how HCA’s funding can provide deeper support to districts that have piloted *Understanding* *Mental Wellness*].

**Q: I found out that a school district in my division already used *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* last year. How is HCA Healthcare’s sponsorship providing deeper support for districts? What is the value of our funding?**

**A:** The HCA Healthcare sponsorship will be able to contribute additional expertise and enhanced support to the sponsored districts to help address and support student mental health. HCA Healthcare has also helped equip EVERFI with the resources to provide deeper support, professional development opportunities, and data to help strengthen school district’s overall efforts in the mental health and wellness space.

**DATA & REPORTING:**

**Q:** **How many schools should I expect will implement *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* in my division?**

**A:** EVERFI will have activation goals across the entire program, which will increase year-over-year, and will set division specific goals to ensure activation is proportionate to the market. This goal is set based on EVERFI’s historic activation rate. Typically, within a given county, EVERFI expects to see approximately 15-20% of schools activate on the resource over a multi-year period. This can vary depending on whether there is district-wide adoption and general alignment with curriculum. To learn more about your division’s goal for the 2024-2025 academic year, please contact Ashley Weiner (aweiner@everfi.com).

**Q: How often will activation updates be provided?**

**A:** EVERFI will provide a monthly report that will include:

* Total number of students, schools, and teachers active on *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* across the entire program.
* Total number of students, schools, and teachers active on *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* by division.
* List of schools active by county, and organized by division

**Q: Where can I find an update about a specific schools usage?**

**A:** EVERFI will provide a *list* of schools active and committed, by division & county, in each monthly report. A committed school is defined as a school that has at least one cohort of students enrolled to take *Understanding* *Mental Wellness*. If you would like more insight into a particular school - that is active or not - please either attend the monthly office hours or contact Ashley Weiner (aweiner@everfi.com).

**Q: What information is collected in the embedded course surveys?**

**A:** EVERFI’s course surveys are optional and any responses stored and shared are de-identified and aggregated. The *Understanding* *Mental Wellness* survey questions provide outcome data that measures behavioral and attitudinal shifts.

**Q: When will I have access to the survey data?**

**A:** EVERFI provides aggregated survey data following the conclusion of each school year in the form of an Impact Report. Impact Reports will be provided both at the program-wide level and by division, which will reflect usage from the school year, and aggregate assessment and survey data.