



Professional Development Partnership Grant

Policy Goal

Initiate a collaborative educator professional development project as a primary strategy for implementing the Common Core State Standards, with overarching goals of improving teaching and learning in math, science, and English Language Arts; closing the achievement gap; and improving postsecondary attendance and completion.

Overview

The Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) plan to jointly administer a professional development grant program focused on implementation of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and Next Generation Science Standards for grades 6 – 12.

The program will fund one or two professional development projects conducted by partnerships of one or more higher education institutions and one or more high-need school districts.¹

Projects will deliver professional development designed to prepare teachers and principals to implement the Standards to improve student achievement. Projects also may address implementation of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts. Ideally, project partnerships will have sufficient expertise to provide integrated professional development activities that address learning standards and content knowledge across multiple districts in the state.

Funding would depend on the availability of a combination of federal funds administered by the HECB and OSPI. Projects must comply with all state and federal laws and regulations regarding use of these funds. For example, projects must comply with federal laws and rules regarding equitable participation for private nonprofit schools in the U.S. Department of Education's General Administration Requirements (EDGAR) and Section 9501 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

¹ See Appendix A for a list of high-need districts.

Project Objectives

- Provide professional development in high need districts throughout Washington.
- Help implement the Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards, building upon the good work already completed to define college readiness for math, English, and science; and equip teachers across the state to teach the content reflected in the standards.
- Develop educator capacity to effectively deliver curriculum that promotes the learning necessary to prepare students for postsecondary education and training.
- Create professional development opportunities that build on each other to provide a pathway toward higher-level degrees or other credentials.

Project Attributes

- The project would have a statewide reach through use of a combination of in-person and distance learning.
- The project would be run by a partnership that must include a private or public Washington state institution of higher education (the fiscal agent) and its division that prepares teachers and principals; an institution of higher education's mathematics and/or science department (depending on the focus of the professional development activities) that offers one or more academic majors in disciplines or content areas corresponding to the academic subjects in which the teachers served by the project teach; and at least one high-need school district.
- The partnership may include additional institutions of higher education (including community and technical colleges), institution of higher education academic departments, school districts, schools, educational service agencies, nonprofit educational organizations of demonstrated effectiveness in improving the quality of mathematics and science teachers, or businesses.
- The work products and other resources produced by the project would be freely available for any Washington teachers to use, and allow them to provide feedback for continuous improvement and to adapt the resources for their own use.
- The project would adopt and use the Standards for Professional Learning (www.learningforward.org/standards/index.cfm).
- The project would select and use professional development resources that have a proven track record of success based on assessment of changes in teacher practice and student performance.
- The project would provide training on the use of the Common Core State Standards and/or the Next Generation Science Standards in instruction to improve teaching and learning.

Funding

A total of up to \$1.7 million dollars would be available over three years beginning July 2012 (contingent on the availability of federal funding). Of that \$1.7 million dollars, \$100,000 would have to be used by August 31, 2012.

Projects that address only math or only science would receive a reduced award. Under current federal statutes, the federal funding sources would be:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title II Part A (HECB)	\$800,000
Higher Education Act GEAR UP (HECB)	\$100,000
Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title II Part B (OSPI)	\$800,000

Key Dates and Deadlines

- April 24, 2012 – Release of request for proposals
- **May 1, 2012 – Submit intent to apply**
- May 4, 2012 – Bidder's conference
- **May 25, 2012 – Proposals due**
- June 6 – Finalist interviews
- June 11 – Notification of awards

For more information and updates please visit our website:

www.hecb.wa.gov/Educatorsfor21stCentury

Please direct inquiries to

Mark Bergeson, Associate Director
 Higher Education Coordinating Board
 Phone: 360-753-7881
 Email: markb@hecb.wa.gov



Appendix A

Preliminary List of High-Need School Districts*		
Line Number	District Name	Age 5-17 Population per 2010 Census
1	Bickleton	66
2	Cape Flattery	452
3	Clover Park	12,875
4	Crescent	368
5	Ephrata	2,404
6	Franklin Pierce	8,385
7	Grandview	3,696
8	Inchelium	228
9	Kelso	5,439
10	Mary Walker	648
11	Mossyrock	634
12	Mount Adams	1,127
13	North Franklin	2,088
14	Northport	216
15	Okanogan	981
16	Orondo	379
17	Othello	3,868
18	Pasco	16,420
19	Quillayute Valley	1,279
20	Republic	470
21	Shelton	3,751
22	Spokane	33,964
23	Sunnyside	6,201
24	Tacoma	33,397
25	Taholah	219
26	Tonasket	1,031
27	Toppenish	3,603
28	Wahluke	2,113
29	Wapato	3,435
30	White Pass	452
31	Winlock	816
32	Woodland	2,340
33	Yakima	15,607
34	Zillah	1,199

*This list includes all districts that have been determined to meet the definition of high-need local educational agency outlined in Section 2102(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, based on the most current information available. The list is subject to revision.

Contact Mark Bergeson at markb@hecb.wa.gov for updates.