



May 30, 2019

Action Required

Due date: July 1, 2019

Informational

BULLETIN NO. 034-19 LEARNING AND TEACHING

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
School District Career and Technical Education Directors
School Principals
Computer Science Teachers

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Computer Science Education 2019–20 Competitive Grant Opportunity

CONTACT: Shannon Thissen, Computer Science Program Supervisor
shannon.thissen@k12.wa.us, 360-725-6092

BACKGROUND

The 2019 Washington State Legislature allocated \$1,000,000 of the general fund in Fiscal Year 2020 for computer science education ([ESHB 1109, Sec. 501, \(11\)\(d\)](#)). These funds are designated for:

- (1) Teacher training and credentialing in computer science.
- (2) Technology upgrades needed to learn computer science.
- (3) Engaging students in computer science.

GRANT ELIGIBILITY AND EXPECTATIONS

Any public or private schools, tribal compact or tribal schools, school district, skill centers, educational service districts (ESDs), non-profit organizations in partnership with a school district, school, or ESD, institutions of higher education in partnership with a school district, may apply for any grade(s) K–12. Funds for the computer science education competitive grant may be expended only to the extent that they are equally matched by private sources for the program, including gifts, grants, endowments, and in-kind services which can be quantified. All grant activities must align to Washington State Computer Science K–12 Learning Standards and the designations listed above. We anticipate that most grant applicants will request between \$5,000 and \$50,000. Larger

requests will be considered if the scope, likely impact, and matching resources are commensurate with the request and/or impact multiple districts.

Applicants are encouraged to submit applications that “support innovative ways to introduce students to computer science and engage historically underrepresented groups, including girls, low-income students, and minority students to inspire them to enter computer science careers” ([ESHB 1109, Sec. 501, \(11\)\(d\)](#)).

Recipients of 2018–19 Computer Science Education grants are eligible for continued project funding in 2019–20. A narrative of the outcomes and deliverables from 2018–19 grants should indicate that an extension of the project is beneficial for 2019–20 as evidenced by project metrics, continued dedicated matching private funds, resource availability, and demonstrated sustainability of the project.

READINESS TO BENEFIT

Applicants who can demonstrate readiness and ability to effectively employ and expend grant funds **completely** prior to the end of June 30, 2020, should apply for fiscal year 2019–20 dollars. Readiness to benefit may be indicated by active computer science programs or a detailed plan expressing the ability to expend funds upon receipt.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CRITERIA

All proposals should be grounded in the Washington State Computer Science K–12 Learning Standards (<http://www.k12.wa.us/ComputerScience/default.aspx>).

Applicants:

- Must have a private source match documented in writing (e.g., by a letter of support) in order to be considered for grant funding.
- Must align proposals to the Washington State Computer Science K–12 Learning Standards, to the extent possible.
- Must demonstrate readiness to utilize grant funds.
- May apply for all three purposes of the proviso appropriation or any combination.
- Should include underserved student populations, including students with disabilities in their proposals.

Grant awards will take into consideration the proposal plan, narrative, standards integration, partnerships, sustainability, and, if previously funded, demonstration of positive outcomes as a result of the prior grants.

GRANT TIMELINE

Application opens in iGrants	May 28, 2019
Application closes	July 1, 2019 (4 pm)
Award notifications	August 1, 2019
Last day to expend grant funds	June 30, 2020

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Public or private schools
- Tribal compact or tribal schools
- School districts
- Skill centers
- Educational Service Districts (ESDs)
- Non-profit organizations in partnership with a school district, school, or ESD
- Institutions of higher education in partnership with a school district, school, or ESD
(NOTE: Institutions of higher education may apply independently to train and credential teachers in computer science without a district, school, or ESD partner)

Multiple parties may apply under one proposal. However, one organization must be the lead applicant and serve as the fiscal agent for the project. Only lead organizations (fiscal agents) may submit applications. Partner organizations need not apply independently from the lead organization.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions related to computer science grants, contact Shannon Thissen, Computer Science Program Supervisor, at 360-725-6092 or shannon.thissen@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

For questions related to Career and Technical Education (CTE), contact Timmie Foster, Business and Marketing Program Supervisor, at 360-725-6258 or timmie.foster@k12.wa.us.

BULLETIN NO. 034-19 LEARNING AND TEACHING
May 30, 2019
Page 4

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins and Memoranda](#) page of the OSPI website.

Michaela W. Miller, Ed.D., NBCT
Deputy Superintendent

Kathe Taylor, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Learning and Teaching

CR:st

Attachment: Computer Science Request for Proposal Application Guidelines

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complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or equity@k12.wa.us.