Washington Office of Superintendent of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Open K-12 Education Resources

1. Purpose:

Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching and learning materials that are free to use, adapt, and share. OER:

- Give districts flexibility to shift funds from content acquisition to other critical areas that support learning and teaching;
- Empower districts to make adaptations to support their students; and
- Promote equitable access to high-quality, standards aligned materials for all students.

In implementing 2012 legislation for open K-12 education resources (RCW 28A.300.803), the first of its kind for K-12 across the country, the OSPI OER Project was created. The project targets:
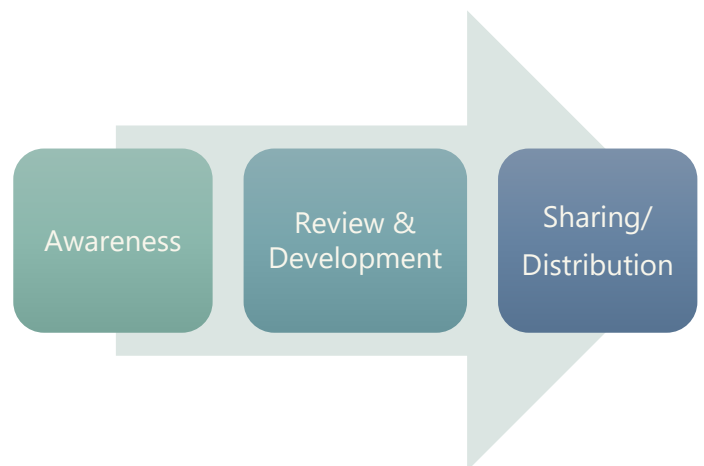
OER Awareness and Advocacy: increasing district awareness of OER and providing resources and technical assistance to locate, evaluate, adopt, and implement these materials.

OER Review and Development: working with districts and other partners to identify and develop openly licensed instructional material aligned to Washington learning standards.

OER Sharing/Distribution: maintaining an online library of high-quality, standards aligned resources developed by OSPI grantees or collaborators.

Awareness → Review & Development → Sharing/ Distribution

2. Description of services provided:

- Washington OER Hub – the Washington OER Hub is an online library of free, high-quality, K-12 open educational resources (OER) created by and curated for Washington educators. All materials align with Washington State learning standards and may be downloaded, adapted, and shared to better serve all students.

- OER Grants – this competitive grant program assists with district or educational non-profit development or adaptation of OER instructional materials in areas of high need identified by school districts.
- OER Summits and Professional Learning Events – webinars, workshops, and conference presentations raise awareness and build district capacity to implement OER.
- Technical assistance and content-specific work sessions – support to school districts and Educational Service Districts exploring, implementing, or adapting OER and assistance to additional OSPI grantees and contractors producing resources that adhere to OSPI Open Policy.

3. Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:

- Any educator can access, download, and adapt instructional materials on the Washington OER Hub or attend OER professional learning events.

- To receive OER grant funding, grantees must:
  o develop/adapt core, unit, or lesson-level OER aligned to state learning standards.
  o demonstrate impact beyond a single class (e.g., collaboration between multiple districts, Educational Service Districts, local Tribes, or community-based organizations).
  o submit developed content to the Washington OER Hub, so that material can be accessed and used by educators and districts across the state.

Beneficiaries in 2021-22 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	**46** (professional learning events – only tracked districts in events with required registration) **50+** (grants awarded: one district, one community college with high dual enrollment for secondary students from many districts, one ESD serving 30 additional districts, one state school, and four Washington non-profit organizations)
Number of Students:	**23,360** (grants)
Number of Educators:	**1529** (professional learning), **882** (grants)

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 1.2

Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 2

FY22 Funding:

State Appropriation:	$250,000
Federal Appropriation:	$0
Other Fund Sources:	$0
TOTAL (FY22)	$250,000

4. Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?

No

5. State funding history:

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY22	$250,000	$220,392
FY21	$250,000	$230,065
FY20	$250,000	$239,500
FY19	$250,000	$232,090
FY18	$250,000	$246,362

6. Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:

Fiscal Year	Number of Students	Number of Educators
FY22	23,360	2,411
FY21	7,745	3,741
FY20	21,147	2,289
FY19	6,450	1,628
FY18	6,172	1,694
FY17	7,935	2,131
FY16	17,581	2,554
FY15	22,504	2,225
FY14	23,017	1,902

These numbers include totals from grants, workshops meetings, and presentations.

7. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):

Addition of a competitive grant program in FY14

8. Evaluations of program/major findings:

OER Awareness and Advocacy

- Webinars and presentations reaching over 1500 educators and administrators. Venues include:
  - Washington Association of Educational Service Districts
  - Washington Association for Career and Technical Education
  - State Educational Technology Directors' Association

- o Northwest Council for Computer Education
- o pen Language Resource Center and the Center for Open Educational Resources and Language Learning
- o Open Education Conference
- Member of the Leadership team for the [#GoOpen National Network](#), made up of educators and leaders who support the advancement of a national infrastructure for K-12 open education to improve teaching and learning for all.

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OER Review and Development

- Continued a competitive OER grant program to support districts as they adapt, develop, or implement OER.
  - o Over 800 teachers and 23,000 students directly benefited, with many more sharing the benefits of the openly accessible work.
  - o This year, 26 new lessons/units were created in the following areas:
    - ▪ Outdoor Education/Health and Physical Education
    - ▪ Social Emotional Learning/Identity, Diversity, and Community
    - ▪ Healthy Relationships
    - ▪ Coding
    - ▪ Washington State History
    - ▪ STEM
    - ▪ Social Studies for Dual Credit students
    - ▪ Pathways for deaf and hard of hearing students

[Visit all grantee resources on the WA OER Hub](#)
[Download abstract of grant efforts](#)
[Watch OER Grantee Resource Showcase](#)

- Provided technical assistance and OER development training to additional OSPI grantees in the following programs:
  - [ClimeTime](#): science teacher training around Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and climate science - [SB 5092, Section 522 (4)(c)](#)
  - [Digital Citizenship/Media Literacy](#): Open Educational Resources to support digital citizenship, media literacy and Internet safety in schools - [SB5242](#)
  - [Kip Tokuda Memorial Civil Liberties Public Education](#): [RCW 28A.300.410](#)

OER Sharing and Distribution – Washington OER Hub

- Expanded the Washington OER Hub, increasing pool of both OSPI curated collections of resources and materials created by OSPI grantees, collaborating organizations, and contractors. During FY21, 156 robust lessons and units aligned with Washington learning standards were added to the platform. Below are few of the most frequently viewed resources based on the hub data analytics:
  - Mathematically Productive Instructional Routines
  - Human Geography: An open textbook for Advanced Placement
  - NGSS Resource Sets for Teaching Science and Integrating with ELA
  - Elections and Voting Teacher Resources
  - The State We're In: Washington (Eighth Edition and Teacher Guide)
  - Screening for Biased Content in Instructional Materials

- Contracted with expert educators to curate additional resources for learning collections, reviewing materials for alignment to learning standards and other indicators of quality.
  - [Washington OER Hub – Resource Submission Criteria](#)

9. Major challenges faced by the program:

Since 2012, $250,000 of the general fund (annually) has been appropriated this purpose. That figure has remained static over the years though the needs and reach of the project have increased dramatically.

- Limited staff (1) make serving greater numbers of districts, educators, and internal OSPI teams difficult. This has become especially noticeable during this period of increased demand for remote learning and freely accessible quality digital resources.

- Adoption of an open licensing policy by OSPI in 2016, also the first of its kind by a state education agency, led to requirements for all instructional materials created by staff, contractors, and grantees to be openly licensed. As a result, resources created through programs funded through the legislature like

[ClimeTime](#), [Digital Citizenship/Media Literacy](#), and [Kip Tokuda Memorial Civil Liberties Public Education, are also being made available to everyone via the Washington OER Hub.](#) This has required internal support for the policy as well as technical assistance and OER development training to additional OSPI grantees.

10. Future opportunities:

As districts are implementing increased blended or remote learning strategies, the OSPI OER Project and the associated Washington OER Hub are poised to provide many needed resource options and support to help schools, students, families, and communities. Below are recommendations for future expansion of the program to serve an even wider state audience:

- Additional staff person to meet increased project demand for internal and external technical assistance, professional learning, OER awareness efforts, and Washington OER Hub maintenance.
- Increased grant funding for OER development, adaptation, and implementation efforts in areas that reflect district and student needs as well as OSPI strategic goals.
- Creation of an educator reviewer pool across content areas to evaluate OSPI grantee developed work and ensure established quality criteria prior to inclusion in Washington OER Hub Learning Collections.

11. Statutory and/or budget language:

$250,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and $250,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for implementation of [chapter 178, Laws of 2012](#) (open K-12 education resources).

12. Other relevant information:

N/A

13. Schools/districts receiving assistance:

See [OSPI's grantee list](#).

14. Program Contact Information:

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