Computer Science Grants

**Purpose:** Creation of the computer science and education grant program to support the following three purposes: Train and credential teachers in computer sciences; provide and upgrade technology needed to learn computer science; and, for computer science frontiers grants to introduce students to and engage them in computer science. The Districts/Schools/Skill Centers/Educational Service Districts that demonstrate readiness (as identified above). Non-profit organizations in partnership with a school district, school, or Educational Service District. Institutions of higher education in partnership with a school district, school, or Educational Service District. Institutions of higher education can apply to train and credential teachers in computer science.

1. **Description of services provided:** Grants provided for the purpose of introducing students to computer science are intended to support innovative ways to introduce and engage students from historically underrepresented groups, including girls, low-income students, and minority students, to computer science and to inspire them to enter computer science careers.

2. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:** Grant funds for the computer science and education grant program may be expended only to the extent that they are equally matched by private sources for the program, including gifts, grants, or endowments. Engagement of underserved student populations is emphasized. Underserved student populations include: (1) economically disadvantaged students, (2) students from major racial and ethnic groups, (3) students with disabilities, (4) students with limited English proficiency (the federal term), (5) girls, and (6) students in alternative education (NCLB, 2001).

3. **Beneficiaries in 2015-16 School Year:**

   - # of School Districts: 19
   - # of Schools: 66
   - # of Students: 50,000+(≥110,000)

   **Other:** ESD 123, ESD 114, ESD 101, ESD 112, Washington FIRST Robotics, Washington Technology in Education Trust, Whitworth University

   - # of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 3
   - # of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 1

   **FY 16 Funding:**
   - State Appropriation: $1.0 million
   - Federal Appropriation: $0
   - Other fund sources: $0
   - TOTAL (FY16): $1.0 million

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding? If yes, explain.** Yes. $1,000,000 of the general fund – state appropriation for fiscal year 2016

5. **First year funded:** FY16

6. **State funding history:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 16</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., schools, students, districts) history:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th># of School Districts:</th>
<th># of beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 16</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50,000+ ($\geq 110,000$)</td>
<td>50,000+ ($\geq 110,000$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other:</strong></td>
<td>ESD 123, ESD 114, ESD 101, ESD 112, Washington FIRST Robotics, Washington Technology in Education Trust, Whitworth University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. **Average and range of funding per beneficiary, 2015-16 school year:** The average amount of funding received per school district was $37,907.00, with a range of $1,170.00 (Pe Ell School District) to $146,897.00 (ESD112). The average amount funded per student served in the program was $8.96.

9. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):** None

10. **Evaluations of program/major findings:** Final Reports are due September 20, 2016

11. **Major challenges faced by the program:** Due to a late announcement and short submission window, not all districts felt they had time to complete the grant package. The timing was different for FY2017. The major challenge faced is the issue of equity in regards to requiring matching funds. While larger urban districts were able to secure matching funds and quickly, small districts from rural areas did not have the ability to do so. This sets up an inequity in who received awards.

12. **Future opportunities:** The future holds great promise, an additional $1,000,000 of the general fund–state appropriation for fiscal year 2017, will be used to continue this work.

13. **Statutory and/or Budget language:**

   **Budget Proviso:** ESSB 6052 – 501 (42) $1,000,000 of the general fund – state appropriation for fiscal year 2016 and $1,000,000 of the general fund – state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 are provided solely for the computer science and education grant program to support the following three purposes: Train and credential teachers in computer sciences; provide and upgrade technology needed to learn computer science; and, for computer science frontiers grants to introduce students to and engage them in computer science. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction must use the computer science learning standards adopted pursuant to Substitute House Bill No. 1813 (computer science) in implementing the grant, to the extent possible. Additionally, grants provided for the purpose of introducing students to computer science are intended to support innovative ways to introduce and engage students from historically underrepresented groups, including girls, low-income students, and minority students to computer science and inspire them to enter computer science careers. Grant funds for the computer science and education grant program may be expended only to the extent that they are equally matched by private sources for the program, including gifts, grants, or endowments.

14. **Other relevant information:** None

15. **List of schools/districts receiving assistance:** (From Grants Unit)