



## *Social Emotional Learning Grants*

### 1. **Purpose:**

The purpose of the OSPI SEL Curriculum Grant is to provide funding for school districts to purchase and use evidence-based social emotional learning (SEL) curricula to support the social, emotional, and academic success of WA students.

### 2. **Description of services provided:**

OSPI offers \$30,000 grants for districts to purchase SEL curricula. OSPI provides technical assistance for grant recipients to support successful SEL Implementation, additionally, professional development opportunities are available for districts to learn best practices of SEL Implementation.

### 3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

Criteria for this grant require school districts to choose an evidence-based curriculum from the CASEL Program Guide (which specifically contains evidence-based SEL curricula options), use the Washington State SEL Standards, provide a vendor quote, agree to a post-grant survey, agree to attend an OSPI SEL informational webinar, and only use the funds on evidence-based SEL curriculum. Priority was given to districts that qualify for LAP funding and districts that were purchasing evidence-based SEL curricula for the first time.

#### **Beneficiaries in the 2022-23 School Year:**

<b>Number of School Districts:</b>	15
<b>Number of Schools:</b>	81
<b>Number of Students:</b>	38,490
<b>Number of Educators:</b>	N/A
<b>Other:</b>	N/A

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

No



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## 5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2023	\$500,000	\$394,799
2022	\$500,000	\$355,449

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

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools
2023	81
2022	84

## 7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

While allowable use remained the same, criteria adjustments for 2023 (year 2 of the program) included applicants providing the specific curriculum they intended to purchase and the purchase cost. Proviso funding was not continued for the 2024 fiscal year, creating a significant barrier for districts.

## 8. **Program evaluation or evaluation of major findings:**

2022 grantee survey data reports challenges in funding and time for professional development (PD) and training of purchased curriculum, funding being the greatest barrier. Additionally, survey data suggests grantees who engaged in the SEL Professional Learning Network found an overall improvement in motivational change (buy-in) of educators. LEAs report the exclusion of PD as an allowable expense made it difficult to meet the grant criteria.

## 9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

Applicants expressed the challenge of buying the SEL curriculum without the support of educating the educator who would be implementing it. Professional development on SEL implementation needs to be included in the program design and application in addition to funding to support the effectiveness of the program.

## 10. **Future opportunities:**

Renew the funding for the SEL Curriculum Grant program to bolster SEL Implementation efforts for LEAs. Make criteria changes to the program application, specifically allowable use of funds inclusive of professional development to build adult capacity across the state



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## 11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

\$500,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$500,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the office of the superintendent of public instruction to administer a grants program for school districts to acquire and use research-based, social emotional learning curricula in accordance with the state social emotional learning standards. The office must prioritize school districts that do not have existing research-based social emotional learning programs and that are also eligible for high-poverty allocations from the learning assistance program.

## 12. **Other relevant information:**

N/A

## 13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

[preliminaryfy23state-fundedprovisograntawardsupdated-42823.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

## 14. **Program Contact Information:**

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