K-12 Open 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 teaching and learning;
   - Empower districts to make adaptations to support their students; and
   - Promote equitable access to strong materials for all students.

   The OSPI K-12 OER Project is focused on:

   - OER Awareness and Advocacy: increasing district awareness of OER and providing resources to locate, evaluate, adopt, and implement OER.
   - OER Review and Development: working with districts to develop full-course or unit level OER aligned to learning standards.
   - OER Library Curation: maintaining a library of resources that have been developed by OSPI grantees or collaborators and aligned to Washington K-12 Learning Standards

2. Description of services provided:
   - Reviewed OER Library - catalog of openly licensed material reviewed for alignment with state learning standards by expert teachers from across the state using the same rubrics that would be used for traditionally published material.
   - OER Commons Washington Hub - reviewed and developed openly-licensed resources from OSPI, OER Project grantees, and collaborative groups
   - OER Grants – competitive grant that assists with district development or adaptation of OER core instructional materials aligned to state learning standards in a specific content area.
   - OER Summits and Professional Learning Events - raise awareness and build district capacity to implement OER
   - OER Content-Specific Work Sessions – educators bring developed units to receive assistance with finding content-specific open resources, review questions about copyright, licensing, and attribution, and upload work to the OER Commons Washington hub to share with districts across the state and around the world.

3. Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:

   For funding consideration, competitive grant proposals must:
   - Develop/adapt OER core instructional materials aligned to state learning standards, or
   - Develop resources, supports, and best practices, to help in the ongoing implementation of district-adopted OER core instructional materials.

All proposals must include a plan to:
- Ensure adherence to resource licensing permissions and proper open resource attribution.
- Link content to or develop content on the OER Commons Washington Hub, so that material can be accessed and used by teachers, schools and districts across the state.

Beneficiaries in 2018-19 School Year:

# of School Districts:	61 (including 4 grant districts)
# of Students:	6450 (reported by grant districts)
Other:	1628 (teachers, administrators, librarians, school board members)

# of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):   1.1

# of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 0

FY19 Funding:	State Appropriation:	$250,000
	Federal Appropriation:	$0
	Other fund sources:	$0
	TOTAL (FY19)	$250,000

4. Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding? If yes, explain.
   No

5. State funding history:

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY19	$250,000	$232,090
FY18	$250,000	$246,362
FY17	$250,000	$218,088
FY16	$250,000	$215,882
FY15	$250,000	$190,965
FY14	$250,000	$186,686

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

Fiscal Year	# of districts/ # of teachers/administrators
FY19 Grant Program	271 teachers/6450 students
FY19 Presentations and Meetings	1357 teachers, administrators, librarians, and board members
FY18 Grant Program	246 teachers/6172 students
FY18 Presentations and Meetings	1448 teachers, administrators, librarians, and board members
FY17 Grant Program	231 teachers/7935 students
FY17 Presentations and Meetings	1900 teachers, administrators, librarians, and board members
FY16 Grant Program	693 teachers/15,720 students
FY16 Presentations and Meetings	1,861 teachers, administrators, librarians, and board members
FY15 Grant program	895 teachers/22,504 students
FY15 Presentations and Meetings	1,330 teachers, administrators, librarians, and board members
FY14 Grant program	847 teachers / 23,017 students
FY14 Presentations and Meetings	1,055 teachers, administrators, librarians, and board members

7. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):
Addition of a grant program in FY14

8. Evaluations of program/major findings:
During FY19, the OER project:

- Continued a competitive OER grant program to support districts as they adapt, develop, or implement OER. This year, over 200 teachers and 6000 students have directly benefited, with many more sharing the benefits of the openly accessible work. 2018-19 grantee projects:
    - Southwest Washington STEM Materials Collaborative
    - Braiding Native Knowledge in Public Education
    - Conceptual Chemistry
    - Seattle Schools Dual Language Immersion Social Studies OER Project

Visit other grantees and groups developing OER on the [Washington OER Commons Hub](#)

- Collaborated with the math and ELA departments to conduct Instructional Materials Adoption trainings in Lake Washington, Spokane, and Puyallup. Events included considerations for adoption of openly licensed core instructional materials.
- Worked with the Social Studies Cadre to continue to populate the Social Studies Group on the Washington OER Commons Hub with inquiry-based, standards aligned OER.
- Led agency-wide and department-specific professional development on implementation of the OSPI Copyright and Open Licensing Policy that requires open licensing for all educational materials created by OSPI staff, contractors, or grantees.
- OER Summits, presentations, and trainings reached over 1300 educators

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**
   Limited staff make serving greater numbers of districts and educators difficult.

10. **Future opportunities:**
    Recent data suggest that instructional materials can have as large an impact on student outcomes as teacher quality. By continuing to expand the library of high quality openly licensed courseware and aid districts in the development and adaptation of open materials, the OER Project can play a huge role in providing equitable access to core instructional materials.

    The legislature is providing funding to OSPI for specific efforts such as Climate Science, Computer Science, and Media Literacy. These pieces of legislation all mandate the creation of openly licensed materials as part of their deliverables. This provides an opportunity for the OER project to work collaboratively with grantees to ensure adherence to attribution and licensing requirements and to make sure developed materials are submitted to OER Commons for wide scale distribution.

    World Language, Early Learning, and Health and PE are underserved content areas in terms of openly licensed instructional materials development. Collaborations in each of these areas holds great promise for increasing the pool of materials accessible to districts throughout the state.

11. **Statutory and/or Budget language:**
    Budget Proviso: ESSB 6032, Sec. 501(13) - $250,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2018 is provided solely for implementation of chapter 178, Laws of 2012 (open K-12 education resources).

12. Other relevant information:

OER Summits, presentations, and trainings have reached educators in over half of Washington's school districts. Twenty-seven district collaborations have received small, competitive grants for adapting, developing, or implementing openly licensed resources. To date, the state has invested $1.5 million to support OER. Four districts alone can account for nearly $1 million in cost savings, making OER an excellent return on investment.

Our project played a pivotal role in the formation of the K–12 OER Collaborative that has since evolved into Open up Resources. Their open middle school math and K-5 ELA instructional materials have received the highest ratings of any instructional materials on EdReports, a non-profit curricula review organization. Many Washington districts are adopting these resources.

Since legislation passed in 2012 (RCW 28A.300.803), the K–12 OER Project has advocated for OER as an important part of the instructional materials ecosystem. Washington is receiving considerable recognition nationally for this leadership -- from the Council of Chief State School Officers, the State Educational Technology Directors' Association, and the U.S. Department of Education.

13. List of schools/districts receiving assistance: See OSPI website.

14. Program Contact Information:

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Washington Hub on OER Commons