Computer Science Education Grant Request for Proposal and Application Guidelines  
(July 1 2016 - June 30 2017)

Background/Purpose

During the 2015 session, the Washington State Legislature allocated funding for Computer Science Education. ESSB 6052, Sec. 501, (42) provides $1,000,000 of the general fund – state appropriation for fiscal year 2015-16 and $1,000,000 of the general fund – state appropriation for fiscal year 2016-17 solely for the Computer Science and Education grant program. In the first competitive RFP, applicants can apply for moneys from fiscal year 2015-16 and fiscal year 2016-17. This second RFP focuses on awarding the remaining dollars.

These funds support the following three purposes:

1. Train and credential teachers in computer science;
2. Provide and upgrade technology needed to learn computer science; and,
3. For computer science frontiers grants to introduce students to and engage them in computer science.

OSPI is directed to use computer science learning standards to anchor the implementation of these grants. Furthermore, 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.

Computer science is a broad and diverse field which can include application design, coding, robotics, testing and development of models. As students learn computer science, they may use a wide variety of programmable hardware and software. There are also aspects of computer science which can be learned without the use of computer hardware or technology of any kind. We do not limit the means of teaching computer science in this application, but encourage applicants to think creatively about the best means of advancing student knowledge and skill in computer science. Additionally, computer science can and should be integrated into core content areas such as science, math, arts, and language arts. Applicants should consider and demonstrate how their proposal support this integration of core content areas.

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, endowments, and in-kind services which can be quantified.

OSPI has contracted with Washington STEM to assist with implementation of the Computer Science Education grant program.
Applicant Eligibility (who may apply)

- Districts/Schools/Skill Centers/Educational Service Districts.
- Non-profit organizations in partnership with school district(s), school(s), or Educational Service District(s).
- Institutions of higher education in partnership with a school district, school, or Educational Service District.
- Institutions of higher education may apply for Purpose 1 (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.
- Applications are to be submitted only by lead organizations (fiscal agents). Partner organizations do not apply independently from the lead organization.

Competitive Priorities

- Projects that serve students from groups that are historically under-represented in computer science/STEM fields.
- Projects that have a private source match in hand.
- Projects supporting the integration of Computer Science with core content areas (science, math, arts, language arts, social studies, etc.) and other strategies that ensure sustainability over time.
- A competitive proposal will make a clear, compelling case that the project is rooted in rigorous and appropriate computer science knowledge and skill. In lieu of Washington computer science standards (which are anticipated in summer of 2016), we urge applicants to consider other high quality standards such as CSTA and those in leading states (e.g., Massachusetts draft standards). Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, aspects of computer science literacy are embedded in core content standards (e.g., Next Generation Science Standards, Math Standards, ELA Standards, and Arts Standards). Applicants are encouraged to review relevant core content standards to ensure that projects intentionally integrate Computer Science with core content learning.

Project Scale

- The grant project is designed to initiate activity across the state in “communities large and small” to support computer science education. We anticipate awarding approximately 1-2 large ($30K-75K) system-wide scale projects and approximately 8-10 small ($10K-30K) projects.

Timeline

- Application opens via iGrants – April 18, 2016
- Applications close – 4:00 pm, May 16, 2016
- State funds expended by June 30, 2017

Letters of Support
For projects with multiple applicants (one lead and additional partner organizations), letters of participation from each partner must be submitted. Applicants may choose to include letters of support that convey organizational commitment and project sustainability.

**Supporting Resources**

- Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTAS) Student Learning Standards: [http://csta.acm.org/Curriculum/sub/K12Standards.html](http://csta.acm.org/Curriculum/sub/K12Standards.html)
- Cross-walk with other national standards documents: [http://csta.acm.org/Curriculum/sub/K12Standards.html](http://csta.acm.org/Curriculum/sub/K12Standards.html)

**How to Apply**

Application for the Computer Science Education Grants (Form package 777) must be made through OSPI’s iGrants system at [https://eds.ospi.k12.wa.us/iGrants/Default.aspx](https://eds.ospi.k12.wa.us/iGrants/Default.aspx).

If you do not currently have access to iGrants, directions on how to gain access can be found here: [https://eds.ospi.k12.wa.us/iGrants/Docs/15-16/Help/gainingaccess.html](https://eds.ospi.k12.wa.us/iGrants/Docs/15-16/Help/gainingaccess.html).

**Application Questions**

Note: Applications must be submitted through iGrants. The application questions in this guidance document are provided for your information and planning purposes only.

**Q1. Lead Organization** (serving as fiscal agent):

**Q2. Lead Applicant Contact Information:**

Name:
Title:
Organization:
Email:
Phone:

**Q3. Partner Applicants/Organization(s)** (e.g., school districts, schools, IHEs, and non-profits partnering and being served by the project):**

**Q4. Short Summary of Project** (150 word max):

**Q5. Type of Project** (select all that apply):
1. Train and/or credential teachers in computer science
2. Provide and upgrade technology needed to learn computer science
3. Introduce students to and engage them in computer science

Q6. Project Description (20 pts) Provide a description of your proposed project and the innovative ways the project will introduce and engage students from historically underrepresented groups and is rooted in rigorous and appropriate computer science knowledge and skills. Include what, where, for whom, how, and projected timeline. (1000 word max):

Q7. Student and Teacher Information (10 pts)

Within the project area, approximately how many students are currently being served with Computer Science education and/or technology?

Approximately, how many students will be served in the coming year, through the proposed project?

Within the project area, approximately how many teachers are currently being served with Computer Science professional development or credentialing?

Approximately how many teachers will be served through the proposed project?

What is the approximate cost per student or teacher based on your budget?

Q8. Approximately what number and percentage of students to be served are under-represented in STEM and from which demographic groups? (10 pts.) (1) economically disadvantaged students, (2) students from major racial and ethnic groups, (3) students with disabilities, (4) students with limited English proficiency; (5) girls, and (6) students in alternative education.

Describe the strategies you will use to attract/include under-represented students. (500 word max):

Q9. Describe student and/or teacher learning outcomes and how those will be assessed. (10 pts.) (500 word max):

Q10. Describe how the project will be integrated into other content areas that support Washington State Learning Standards. (15 pts.) (500 word max):

Q11. Private Source Match (10 pts.)

Grant funds 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. Priority will be given to projects that have a private source match in hand. Projects without a private source match may be eligible for assistance with securing a private source match. Whether or not the match is in hand, applicants should include private source match amounts in the budget.
Do you have a private source match committed or in hand?

Yes
No

If yes, describe the private source match (from whom, what is it, and how it will be used). (150 word max)

Q12. Project Budget (15 pts.)

Budget Overview – include state fund request and private match. In the narrative text fields, cite activities and describe how each describe how each budget item was calculated – provide a breakdown of costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>State Fund Request</th>
<th>Private Match</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies (consumables)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional Resources</td>
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<td>(e.g., teacher guides, software)</td>
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<td>Purchased Services (e.g., contractors, workshop fees, etc.)</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Outlay (e.g., computer hardware)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Q13. How will the project be sustained after the grant is concluded? (10 pts.)

Letters of Support

For project with multiple applicants (one lead and additional partner organizations), letters of participation from each partner must be submitted.
Applicants may choose to include letters of support that convey organizational commitment and project sustainability.

**Grant Application Review**

In partnership with OSPI, Washington STEM will conduct the application reviews and make recommendations to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. A review committee comprised of individuals with deep knowledge and experience in education and computer science learning will contribute to the review process. The following scoring rubric will be used in the review process.

**Scoring Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scored Questions</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>Competent</th>
<th>Below</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q6. Project Description</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(Pts 11-15) Includes all of the required elements and is clear and compelling.</td>
<td>(Pts 5-10) Includes some of the required elements and is somewhat clear and compelling.</td>
<td>(Pts 0-4) Includes few of the required elements and is marginally compelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q7. Student and teacher Information</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(Pts 8-10) The number served is very reasonable given the funding request.</td>
<td>(Pts 4-7) The number served is somewhat reasonable given the funding request.</td>
<td>(Pts 0-3) The number served is marginally reasonable given the funding request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q8. Serving under-represented students</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(Pts 8-10) The type, number, and % of under-represented students to be served is high (e.g., over 75%) and the strategies to attract these populations are highly promising.</td>
<td>(Pts 4-7) The type, number, and % of under-represented students to be served is moderate (e.g., over 50%) and the strategies to attract these populations are reasonable.)</td>
<td>(Pts 0-3) The type, number, and % of under-represented students to be served is low (e.g., under 50%) and the strategies to attract these populations are questionable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q9. Student and/or teacher learning outcomes and how those will be assessed</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(Pts 11-15) Includes clear and compelling student and/or teacher outcomes.</td>
<td>(Pts 5-10) Includes some clear and compelling student and/or teacher outcomes.</td>
<td>(Pts 0-4) Includes few clear and compelling student and/or teacher outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q10. Project’s integration into other content areas that support Washington State Learning Standards</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(Pts 11-15) Provides a clear and compelling connection to and integration with multiple student learning standards.</td>
<td>(Pts 5-10) Provides a somewhat clear and compelling connection to and integration with one set of student learning standards.</td>
<td>(Pts 0-4) Provides a marginally clear and compelling connection to and integration with one set of student learning standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q11. Private source match committed or in hand? If yes describe.</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(Pts 8-10) Provides a clear and compelling description of the match and how it will be used.</td>
<td>(Pts 4-7) Provides a somewhat clear and compelling description of the match and how it will be used.</td>
<td>(Pts 0-3) Provides a marginally clear and compelling description of the match and how it will be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q12. Project budget</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(Pts 8-10) Provides a reasonable budget based on the number of students and/or teachers served and the cost of each item.</td>
<td>(Pts 4-7) Provides a somewhat reasonable budget based on the number of students and/or teachers served and the cost of each item.</td>
<td>(Pts 0-3) Provides a marginally reasonable budget based on the number of students and/or teachers served and the cost of each item.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Q13. How will the project be sustained after the grant is concluded?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Pts 8-10) Provides a clear and compelling description of project sustainability.</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Pts 4-7) Provides a somewhat clear and compelling description of project sustainability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Pts 0-3) Provides a marginally clear and compelling description of project sustainability.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Letter(s) of participation and support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter(s) demonstrate a strong commitment to participate and or support the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter(s) demonstrate moderate commitment to participate and or support the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter(s) demonstrate little or no commitment to participate and or support the project.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Points 100

For questions about this grant opportunity please contact:

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