Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Increase Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Course Capacity

1. **Purpose:**
   Provide competitive grants to school districts to increase the capacity of high schools to offer Advanced Placement (AP) computer science courses.

2. **Description of services provided:**
   Grants are provided to districts for equipment purchases and/or teacher professional development.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**
   Priority is given to schools and districts in rural areas, with substantial enrollment of low-income students, and that do not offer AP computer science.

   Beneficiaries in 2019-20 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	7
Number of Schools:	10
Number of Students:	0
Number of Educators:	10
Other: *Name other…*	0

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):	0 FTE
Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding:	0

FY20 Funding:	**State Appropriation:**	$62,000
	Federal Appropriation:	$0
	Other fund sources:	$0
	TOTAL (FY20)	$62,000

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**
   ☒ No
   ☐ Yes, please explain.
   If state funds are not available, the state will not be eligible…

5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY20	$62,000	$62,000
FY19	$62,000	$58,739
FY18	$62,000	$60,463
FY17	$62,000	$61,429
FY16	$62,000	$52,957

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

Fiscal Year	Number of School Districts	Number of Schools	Number of Educators
FY20	7	10	10
FY19	N/A	14	N/A
FY18	N/A	10	N/A
FY17	N/A	9	N/A
FY16	N/A	8	N/A

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

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:**
Steady funding has enabled Washington to increase the number of instructors trained to teach computer science and the number of students taking computer science courses.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**
The impact of COVID-19 and its effects on school districts decreased the number of grant applications this year. All applications were funded.

10. **Future opportunities:**
District interest in offering AP computer science courses continues to grow.

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**
ESSB 6168, Sec. 520 (12)(f) - $62,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and $62,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for competitive grants to school districts to increase capacity of high schools to offer AP computer science courses. In making grant

allocations, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction must give priority to schools and districts in rural areas, with substantial enrollment of low-income students, and that do not offer AP computer science. School districts may apply to receive either or both of the following grants:

(i) A grant to establish partnerships to support computer science professionals from private industry serving on a voluntary basis as co-instructors along with a certificated teacher, including via synchronous video, for AP computer science courses; or

(ii) A grant to purchase or upgrade technology and curriculum needed for AP computer science, as well as provide opportunities for professional development for classroom teachers to have the requisite knowledge and skills to teach AP computer science.

12. **Other relevant information:**

The number of students taking the AP Computer Science exam has grown from 1,770 students in 2015 to 3,524 students in 2019*. In addition to doubling the number of students taking the exam, 78% earned a score consistent with college credit, up from 70% in 2015**.

While there has been progress in increasing computer science opportunities for students, less than 36% of high schools offer AP computer science. Projections for the years 2020–2025 estimate that in Computer Science Occupations, out of a total of more than 14,000 annual job openings, there will be 10,000 more openings than there are graduates completing degree programs each year prepared to fill them. Underrepresented populations continue to face challenges in STEM. A gender imbalance in STEM achievement tends to widen as students move through their education. ***

Engaging more K-12 students in computer science is needed to increase the likelihood students will pursue postsecondary computer science education pathways to meet the workforce demand.

* AP Program Participation and Performance Data 2019, AP Program Participation and Performance Data 2019

** AP Data – Archived Data 2015, AP Data - Archived Data 2015

*** WA State STEM Education Innovation Alliance, 2020 STEM Education Report Card.

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

See OSPI's Grantee List

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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