Aerospace/Manufacturing/Construction /Maritime

Statutory and/or Budget Language

$2,527,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and $2,527,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for annual startup, expansion, or maintenance of Core Plus programs in maritime, construction, and aerospace and advanced manufacturing programs. To be eligible for funding to start up, maintain, or expand programs under (e)(i) through (iii) of this subsection (2), the skills center, high school, or middle school must be selected through a grant process administered by the office of the superintendent of public instruction in consultation with the advisory committee established in (e)(vi) of this subsection (2). The office and the education research and data center shall report annually student participation and long-term outcome data. Within the amounts provided in this subsection (2)(e):

(i) $900,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and $900,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for grants for the annual startup, expansion, or maintenance of Core Plus programs in aerospace and advanced manufacturing programs.

(ii) $550,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and $550,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for grants for the annual startup, expansion, or maintenance of Core Plus programs in construction programs.

(iii) $550,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and $550,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for grants for the annual startup, expansion, or maintenance of Core Plus programs in maritime programs.

(iv) For (e)(i) through (iii) of this subsection (2), when the grant demand does not align with the specified allocation, the superintendent may allocate funding toward sector areas that meet criteria based on agreement from industry sector representatives.

(v) $527,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and $527,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for the office to administer, evaluate, and promote programs under (e)(i) through (iii) of this subsection (2) based on industry sector recommendations, including contracts with sector-specific entities to expand sector-specific employer engagement programs, increase work placement opportunities, validate credentials necessary for direct employment, and provide professional development to support schools, teachers, and students. Professional development must include pedagogy-based learning to increase

English language arts, mathematics, and science outcomes through Core Plus programming.

(vi) The office shall collaborate with industry sector leadership from the Core Plus program areas and a representative from a statewide business and manufacturing association to inform the administration and continual improvement of Core Plus programs, review data and outcomes, recommend program improvements, ensure Core Plus programs reflect current industry competencies, and identify appropriate program credentials.

Purpose

Funds are provided to support the administration, implementation, evaluation, and promotion of Core Plus programs. Grant funds are provided to schools for annual startup, expansion, or maintenance of Core Plus programs. Funds are also provided for OSPI to evaluate and promote Core Plus programs, and to support sector-specific contracts aimed at expanding Core Plus.

Description of Services Provided

Grants are provided to school districts and skills centers, funding annual start-up or expansion of aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, maritime programs, and professional development for instructors leading these programs. Participating schools and skills centers must agree to offer Core Plus aligned aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime programs. Contract funding with sector-specific entities is focused on expanding sector-specific employer engagement programs, increasing student work placement opportunities, validating credentials necessary for direct employment, and providing professional development to support schools, teachers, and students. Contract funding is also provided to support statewide promotional efforts in a consistent manner.

Criteria for Receiving Services and/or Grants

Participating schools and skills centers must agree to offer an aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime training program. Participating instructors must attend a minimum of 20 hours Core Plus aligned professional development opportunities scheduled throughout the year. Grantees may use funds for the following related activities:

- Develop knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for consistency and rigor of secondary career and technical education in support of aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime career pathways.
- Prepare students for direct industry employment upon graduation, in the aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime trades industries through use of the Core Plus Student Certificate.
- Expand access to and awareness of the vast opportunities offered in aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime careers.

- Create an aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime pipeline to employment, which utilizes an organized program of study.
- Provide professional development for instructors to better deliver aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime trades instruction in high school and skills center programs across the state.
- Provide funds to defray the costs of consumables, materials and equipment, and other necessary aspects of the Core Plus aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime program of study.

Beneficiaries in the 2023–24 School Year

Number of School Districts	N/A
Number of Schools	80 (total number of awardees – some schools may be duplicated in count dependent on multiple grant awards from different sectors)
Number of Students	N/A
Number of Educators	N/A
Other	2 contractors

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No

State Funding History

AG1 – Aerospace/Advanced Manufacturing

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	$900,000	$899,682
2023	$900,000	$900,000
2022	$900,000	$874,872
2021	$900,000	$809,204
2020	$900,000	$839,669

AH1 – Construction Programs

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	$550,000	$549,454
2023	$350,000	$349,886
2022	$350,000	$349,664
2021	$150,000	$142,305
2020	$150,000	$150,000

AJ1 – Maritime Programs

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	$550,000	$550,000
2023	$350,000	$346,313
2022	$350,000	$350,000
2021	$300,000	$299,249
2020	$300,000	$290,000

AP1 – Mgmt/Development/Assessment/Outreach

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	$527,000	$372,757
2023	$527,000	$310,166
2022	$527,000	$299,574
2021	$427,000	$416,617
2020	$427,000	$424,153

Number of Beneficiaries Per Fiscal Year (e.g. School Districts, Schools, Students, Educators, Other)

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2024	80
2023	61
2022	50
2021	48
2020	52

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

Core Plus grants initially started with aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing specific funding in 2013. Since, there has been sector expansion with the addition of Core Plus Construction and Core Plus Maritime, previously those were managed through separate provisos and separate grants, they are now combined and reported through this proviso and three grants.

Program Evaluation or Evaluation of Major Findings

Core Plus, as a career and technical educational program, is expanding rapidly across the state. Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) have continued to adopt and offer aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime programs for their schools. These programs have allowed greater access to industry recognized certifications and CTE pathways to graduation. Core Plus aligned frameworks offer statewide equivalencies to allow students to access opportunities for various credits within one course.

Major Challenges Faced by the Program

LEA budget restrictions and scheduling concerns have created barriers for instructors to attend the required professional development opportunities. To meet this challenge, additional virtual opportunities for professional development have been added to the 2024–25 calendar. Another challenge to overcome will be providing professional development and industry outreach regarding use and acceptance of this student certificate as a skill assessment and employment-screening tool. Lastly, developing new industry relationships and growing industry supported programs in rural communities will be a continued challenge and area of focus for all Core Plus sectors.

Future Opportunities

The Core Plus aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime programs continue to be adopted as a model for career and technical education programs. There has been increased interest in the program from a variety of aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime employers recognizing the ever-growing need as demand for skilled labor continues to increase. Businesses are providing greater access to guest speakers, field trips, guest educators in the classroom and teacher and counselor externships, as well as providing input and validating curriculum for the expansion of Core Plus programs of study. Further development and refinement of the Student Certificate will ensure that all students who are in a recognized Core Plus aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime program have priority interview or employment status with partners in aerospace/advanced manufacturing, construction, and maritime industries throughout the state.

Other Relevant Information

All three sector leaders of Core Plus (Aerospace, Construction and Maritime), continue to meet regularly to unify systems and body of work to make it easier for schools to adopt one or more Core Plus programs. Professional development opportunities are regularly provided by OSPI, Core Plus sectors, and other industry partners such as the Association of General Contractors (AGC) Education Foundation, Boeing, Manufacturing Industry Council (MIC), and SafeBoats.

Starting July 2024, a CTE Task Force has been created through implementation of ESHB 2236 to provide recommendations on successful administration of Core Plus programs as well as a "model framework".

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2024 Fiscal Year.

Program Contact Information

Name Katie Dailey

Title CTE Program Supervisor – Core Plus and STS

Phone 360-878-1404

Email katie.dailey@k12.wa.us