

Career and Technical Education

Statutory and/or Budget Language

\$3,152,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$3,152,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for secondary career and technical education grants pursuant to chapter 170, Laws of 2008, including parts of programs receiving grants that serve students in grades four through six. If equally matched by private donations, \$1,475,000 of the 2024 appropriation and \$1,475,000 of the 2025 appropriation shall be used to support FIRST robotics programs in grades four through twelve. Of the amounts provided in this subsection (2)(b), \$800,000 of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation and \$800,000 of the fiscal year 2025 appropriation are provided solely for the purpose of statewide supervision activities for career and technical education student leadership organizations.

Purpose

To provide funding for secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) grants to support the advancement of high-demand CTE programs for middle schools, high schools, and skills centers; state Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs), and to fund the implementation of 4th–12th grade FIRST Washington programs. High-demand CTE programs are identified under RCW 28A.700.020.

Description of Services Provided

Proviso funds were distributed via grant allocation for the following:

- Support for the expansion of high-demand CTE programs to 7th–12th grade students at middle schools, high schools, and skills centers.
- High-cost program support and expansion, requiring technology and equipment for industry certification; and to regional or statewide high demand occupational programs.
- State recognized CTOSOs support for required extended learning to enrolled CTE students.
- Support for the implementation of FIRST Washington programs for students.
- Support for professional learning opportunities by Washington Applied Math Council (WAMC) to provide educator workshops and training on applied math education.

Criteria for receiving services and/or grants

Fund allocations were prioritized to programs considered to be high cost due to technology and equipment required to maintain industry certification and to programs preparing students for high demand occupations. Grant funds were also used for professional development support to increase dual credit advanced placement coursework, professional development for high-demand programs, and to support statewide access for industry certifications. Grant funds for high-demand programs were eligible to be used for the following purposes:



- Purchase of curriculum
- Professional development
- Creation of pre-apprenticeship programs
- Articulation development with post-secondary
- Technology and equipment upgrades to meet industry standards
- Development or enhancement of high-demand programs through other purposes
- Grants funds were also used to expand access to dual credit opportunities

Funds were provided to school districts to support FIRST Washington programs through a competitive grant process. FIRST Washington grant funds may be used for:

- Teacher stipends
- Teacher professional development
- Registration fees
- Supplies and materials
- Equipment and technology
- Other costs associated with direct participation in the FIRST Washington programs

The eight state-recognized CTSOs were eligible for funds to provide the required extended learning component of the CTE model, to provide state level resources for use by local affiliated programs, and to support statewide supervision of the leadership activities offered through the organizations.

Beneficiaries in the 2023-24 School Year

Number of School Districts	107
Number of Schools	294
Number of Students	N/A
Number of Educators	N/A
Other	9

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	\$3,152,000	\$3,103,660
2023	\$2,752,000	\$2,706,562
2022	\$2,752,000	\$2,731,196
2021	\$2,052,000	\$1,595,016
2020	\$2,052,000	\$1,900,315

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

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools/Other
2024	294/107/9
2023	160/9
2022	152/9
2021	181/9
2020	278

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

The proviso was amended to expand eligibility to programs that serve students in grades 4–6 to accommodate FIRST Lego League grantees. The proviso has increased to account for additional funding provided to FIRST Washington programs.

Program Evaluation or Evaluation of Major Findings

First Washington supported 294 schools from 88 school districts. High-demand grant funding supported 19 school districts. The Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) and the Washington Applied Math Council (WAMC) provide services and support to multiple schools, school districts, and State-Tribal Education Compacts (STEC).

High-demand grant funding was provided to build new or enhance existing CTE programs of study at CTE ALE programs, to middle schools, high schools, and skills centers for programs in Construction Trades, Engineering, Manufacturing and Mechanization, Health Care Careers, and Cybersecurity. Requests for grant funding continue to exceed the available amount of high-demand grant funds. Funding was provided to WAMC to coordinate, promote, and develop integrated math, science, technology, and engineering programs across the state through in-service training and professional development to teachers prior to implementing the Applied Math curriculum.

Major Challenges Faced by the Program

N/A

Future Opportunities

Districts/STECs will need continued support in designing and implementing high-demand programs in emerging industry sectors. OSPI is legislatively mandated to limit CTE offerings to high demand areas, as districts/STECs continue to expand and adapt these programs to meet the industry recommended technology and equipment, increased funding will be necessary to adequately prepare students for these high demand occupations.

Other Relevant Information

The FIRST Robotics program funding is split into three separate grant awards that reflect the three options within age range and program requirements:

- FIRST Robotics Competition: Grades 9–12, Ages 14–18
- FIRST Tech Challenge: Grades 7–12, Ages 12–18
- FIRST LEGO League: Grades 4–8, Ages 9–14

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2024 Fiscal Year.](#)

Program Contact Information

Name	Krista Fox
Title	Director of Career & Technical Education, Secondary Education & Pathways Preparation Division
Phone	360-742-9522
Email	krista.fox@k12.wa.us