

Public Schools Grant Assistance

Budget Language

\$150,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 is provided solely for the office to hire staff to support school districts applying for grants funded by the state of Washington and grants from other public or private sources for which the school district may be eligible. The office must prioritize supporting school districts with smaller student enrollments, tax bases, and operating budgets, and other factors that may preclude or otherwise limit the ability of a school district to apply for grants for which it may be eligible.

Proviso Purpose

The purpose of this proviso was to fund a position to support small school districts as they transitioned to using the new grants management system (EGMS).

Services Provided

The position provided one-on-one support to small school districts as they navigated the grants system as well as provided training and the development of system resources.

Criteria for Receiving Services/Grants

The position focused on assisting small school districts, which are defined as having student attendance of 1,000 students or less. This amounts to about half of the school districts in the state.

Beneficiaries in the 2024-25 School Year

Number of School Districts:	168 identified as small school districts
Number of Schools:	Unknown
Number of Students:	Unknown
Number of Educators:	Unknown

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2025	\$150,000	\$68,161



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

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2025	168

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

The legislature did not provide ongoing funding for this work. Beginning July 1, 2025, the funding for this position ended and OSPI will no longer implement this work.

Program(s) Evaluation or Major Findings

This position benefited many small school districts that used the new grants system (EGMS) to apply for and receive grant funds from OSPI. The employee hired to fill this position also developed resources that benefited system users.

Major Challenges Faced by Program(s)

It took time to hire for the position and by then it was after the busy grant season, so small school districts did not need as much help as they would have if we hired sooner.

Future Opportunities

This body of work has been discontinued by the legislature. Future opportunities will depend on future legislative direction and resources dedicated to the work.

Other Relevant Information

N/A

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2025 Fiscal Year.](#)

Program Contact Information

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