

Innovative Learning Pilot

Budget Language

\$269,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$142,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for implementation of chapter 353, Laws of 2020 (innovative learning pilot).

Proviso Purpose

The state funding is intended to support the implementation of the Innovative Learning Pilot to explore nontraditional credit and course requirements.

Services Provided

Services included are:

- Full-time apportionment associated with the in-person seat-time funding model.
- Listening sessions and focus group discussions.
- Site visits to learn more about individual implementation.
- Policy analysis clarifying existing funding models and identifying gaps or unintended barriers to supporting models like the pilot schools.
- Development of OSPI guidance to reflect the instructional models of these schools and inform local decision making.

Criteria for Receiving Services/Grants

Schools were eligible to participate in the pilot if they received a waiver of credit-based graduation requirements from the State Board of Education (WAC 180-18-055) for the 2019–20 school year and affirmed their participation in the pilot to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Beneficiaries in the 2024-25 School Year

Number of School Districts:	6
Number of Schools:	6
Number of Students:	626
Number of Educators:	N/A

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.



State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2025	\$142,000	\$142,000
2024	\$269,000	\$249,404
2023	\$142,000	\$34,316
2022	\$269,000	\$12,394
2021	\$349,000	\$0

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

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2025	6 schools
2024	6 schools
2023	7 schools
2022	7 schools
2021	7 schools

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

Previous years OSPI interpreted the funding to be targeted toward filling the funding gap participating schools would experience if they were not able to claim in-person funding for their off-site activities. The apportionment strategy adopted by the agency did not require the proviso funds to achieve this goal. Funds were used instead to provide staffing support for the implementation of these pilots and technical assistance.

Additional changes in 2024 included the closure of the Selah Academy, reducing the number of pilot schools to six.

Program(s) Evaluation or Major Findings

OSPI has identified several areas where guidance and policy would benefit from updates to reflect these models that don't align to the assumed schedule structures. OSPI continues to work with the participating schools and other schools to develop formal recommendations for modifications to existing regulations and guidance. OSPI also continues to support these schools to implement the systems needed to claim student apportionment at the end of this proviso.

Major Challenges Faced by Program(s)

This proviso was consolidated going forward into section 504(4)(a) of the budget. Multiple provisos were added to the statewide program section of the budget, and the total amount

appropriated in FY 26 and FY 27 is less than the total previous funding of the individual items consolidated, which may impact this work moving forward.

Future Opportunities

OSPI will continue to review rules and guidance with a focus on consistency and continuity with updated legislation such as SB 5189 (2025), the competency-based education bill.

Other Relevant Information

This work is closely related to the Mastery-based Learning Collaborative (MBLC) grants administered by the State Board of Education, as several pilot schools are also participating in these. The pilot also connects with agency efforts to improve supports for mastery-based learning. This includes the development of tools and guidance that will assist districts in developing innovative programs within the context of the existing systems and the flexibility they provide.

Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

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

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