



BEST Induction Leader Collaborative

August 13, 2026



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



What we do for our educators, we do for our students. What we fail to do for our educators, we fail to do for our students.

- BEST Program Value

2025/2026 Program Highlights

Grantees Served by FP 222 – Direct Competitive

81 Districts; 27% of WA State Eligible Districts / Tribal Compact Schools

Grantees Served by FP 853 – ESD Consortia

145 Districts; 48% of WA State Eligible Districts / Tribal Compact Schools

January Grant Reallocations

37 Grantees Received Additional Allocations to Provide and Enhance Y1 Educator Supports

Mentor Faculty

21 Mentor Faculty and 11 Induction Coaches;
At least 350+ years of collective knowledge and experience in WA State

Mentor Training Feedback

98% of participants rated BEST trainings as Excellent

Mentors Trained 2025/2026

16% Increased Foundational Training Outreach (840+ total mentors trained)



2026/2027 Grant –FP 222 Direct Grantees

FP 222 \$9,500,000 Funded by Legislative Budget 20% Decrease from 2025/26	84 Applications	11 New Grantee Applications
\$6,725,000 Total Available for Awards - FP 222 17% Decrease from 2025/2026	73- Applications Initial Funds 3- 2025/2026 Grantees did not Reapply by Deadline	9 of New Grantee Applications Moved to FP 853 ESD Consortiums





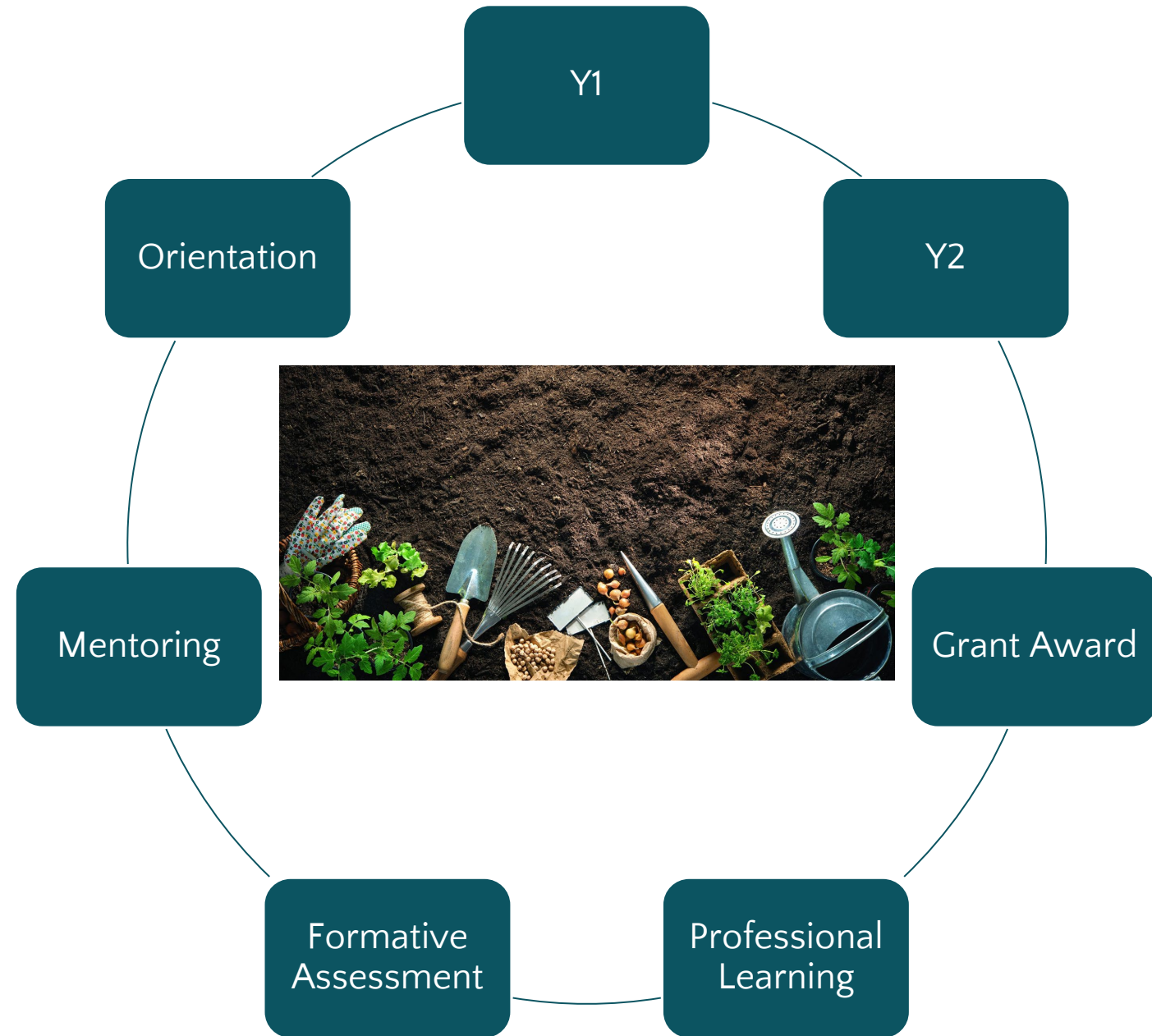
2026–2027 Budget Language

- \$11,500,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and (~~(\$11,500,000)~~) \$9,200,000 of the general fund state appropriation for fiscal year 2027 are provided solely for a beginning educator support program (BEST). The program shall prioritize first year educators in the mentoring program in the 2025–26 school year. During the 2026–27 school year, funding for the program may only support first year educators in the mentoring program.



Nothing Exists in Isolation

- How can we build **Comprehensive Induction** and enhance **Collective Sense of Responsibility**?
- How do components support each other?





Reimagining BEST in Support of Y1 Novice Educators

Mentor Cadre

Identify and Build a Mentor
Cadre

Highly Trained

Develop and Sustain
Mentoring Best Practice

Social Learning

Supports to Y1 Educators Include
Social Learning Experiences

Peer Collaborators

Y2 Educators Can Contribute to Y1
Induction as Peer Collaborators



Induction Coaching Cycle

- Grantees Launch BEST
- Fall Site Visit: Reflect and Implement
- Refine Practice
- Spring Site Visit: Reflect and Plan Ahead





Communications Project



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Project Goals

To highlight the importance of investing in educator effectiveness

To showcase measurable program impact

To advocate for adequate funding to sustain and expand comprehensive induction to beginning educators

To promote the inclusion of Year 2 educators in the systemic support provided by grantees

To elevate success stories to inspire adoption of best practices





Training Updates

[2026-27 Events and Training Dates](#)



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