

High Demand Grants/FIRST Robotics Career and Technical Education Grants (2SSB 6377)

1. **Purpose:** To provide students with the skills they need in 21st century business and industry, the comprehensive CTE bill funded and mandated advancements in CTE in the areas of high-demand trades, in part through grants to middle schools, high schools or skill centers, to develop or upgrade high-demand career and technical education programs as identified under section 102 of 2SSB 6377. To:
- a. Increase the quality and rigor of secondary career and technical education.
 - b. Improve links to postsecondary education, encourage and facilitate academic instruction through career and technical courses.
 - c. Expand access to and awareness of the opportunities offered by high quality career and technical education.

Funds to support FIRST programs are additionally called out in this area.

2. **Description of services provided:** Grant funds are allocated on a one-time basis and may be used to purchase or improve curriculum, create pre-apprenticeship programs, upgrade technology and equipment to meet industry standards, and for other purposes intended to initiate a new program or improve the rigor and quality of a high-demand program. Priority in allocating the funds are given to programs that are also considered high cost due to the types of technology and equipment necessary to maintain industry certification. Priority is given to programs considered in high-demand. Grants are also provided to support statewide equivalency efforts, dual credit efforts through advanced placement support, and initiatives that reflect the purpose and intention of Chapter 170, Laws of 2008. Grants are also provided to school districts to support FIRST programming.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:** For high-demand grants, grantees must use grant funding for high-demand areas and may be used to:
- purchase or improve curriculum,
 - support professional development,
 - create pre-apprenticeship programs,
 - upgrade technology and equipment to meet industry standards; and support other purposes intended to initiate a new program or improve the rigor and quality of a high-demand program.

For course equivalency funding, grantees must seek integration of academic instruction and CTE courses. Grant funds may be used to:

- Increase the integration and rigor of academic instruction in Career and Technical courses.
- The course framework must be submitted to OSPI/CTE prior to final approval of funding.
- Support teams of academic and technical teachers using a research-based professional development model to identify the intersection of Career and Technical Education and core academic subject area concepts.
- Evaluate minimum competencies for equivalency between Career and Technical Education courses and core academic subject areas.
- Develop Advanced Placement course equivalents in Career and Technical Education.
- Develop course completion certificates of Career and Technical Education equivalent courses that can be a part of the student's high school and beyond plan.

4. **Awardees for 2016-2017 School Year High-Demand Grants:**

FY 17 Funding:	State Appropriation:	<u>\$1,577,000</u>
TOTAL (FY17):		\$1,577,000

5. **First year funded:** 2008.

6. **State funding since inception:**

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 09	\$2.75 million
FY 10	\$2.475 million
FY 11	\$912,000
FY 12	\$977,000
FY 13	\$1,077,000
FY 14	\$1,177,000
FY 15	\$1,177,000
FY 16	\$1,577,000
FY 17	\$1,577,000

7. **Number of beneficiaries schools, districts and/or skills centers since inception:**

Fiscal	# of Districts, Schools, and/or Skills Centers
FY 09	107
FY 10	85
FY 11	96 High Demand & FIRST Grantees
FY 12	160 High Demand, FIRST Grantees
FY 13	210 High Demand. FIRST grantees
FY 14	223 High Demand & FIRST Grantees
FY 15	259 High Demand and FIRST Grantees
FY 16	242 High Demand, CTSO, and FIRST Grantees
FY 17	298 High Demand, CTSO, and FIRST Grantees

*\$700,000 earmarked for FIRST Robotics

8. **Major challenges faced by the program:** There is great demand for CTE funding. Both grants were able to award less than half of the requested dollars, the only increase in allocation for this proviso has been specifically earmarked for FIRST Robotics. The High Demand grant request for funds far exceeds the available amount.

9. **Statutory and/or Budget language: 2ESSB 2376 Chapter 4 Sec. 513:** (9) \$1,677,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2016 and \$1,677,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 are provided solely for secondary career and technical education grants pursuant to chapter 170, Laws of 2008. If equally matched by private donations, \$700,000 of the 2016 appropriation and \$700,000 of the 2017 appropriation shall be used to support FIRST robotics programs. Of the amounts in this subsection, \$100,000 of the fiscal year 2016 appropriation and \$100,000 of the fiscal year 2017 appropriation are provided solely for the purpose of statewide supervision activities for career and technical education student leadership organizations.

10. **Contact:** Rebecca Wallace
Phone: 360-725-6243
Email: rebecca.wallace@k12.wa.us