



K-20 Network Support Services (K-20 Network)

1. **Purpose:**

K-20 Network Support Services deliver frontline technical support for K-12 schools on the K-20 Educational Network. Support Services staff are skilled technicians who maintain and troubleshoot the network. Their primary responsibilities are preventative: avert system failure at the school/district level and eliminate network interruptions that impact data processing and the online applications that support professional development, teaching, learning and administration.

2. **Description of services provided:**

State funding supports staffing for the K-20 Support Services—management and oversight at OSPI and the Regional Institutional Technical Units (RITUs) at all nine educational service districts. Staff in each RITU provide technical support and, when necessary, escalate district data problems to the K-20 Networking Cooperative (KOCO) or to Data Advanced Technical Support (ATS). ATS staff deal with problems related to Domain Name Service area. OSPI staff coordinate the allocation of over 12,000 Zoom videoconferencing licenses to K-12 educators as part of K-20 Network Services.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

All schools on the K-20 Network (262 districts, 5 tribal schools, 1 charter school, the state schools for the blind and deaf) receive these services at no cost.

Beneficiaries in 2019-20 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	262
Number of Schools:	2,169
Number of Students:	1,007,772
Number of Educators:	59,243
Other: <i>Name other...</i>	N/A

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):	1.5
Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding:	5.5 (0.6 FTE at each ESD, 0.1 FTE at WSIPC)

FY20 Funding: State Appropriation:	\$1.221 million
Federal Appropriation:	\$0

Other fund sources: \$0
TOTAL (FY20) \$1.221 million

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

No

Yes, please explain.

If state funds are not available, the state will not be eligible...

5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY20	\$1,221,000	\$1,204,610
FY19	\$1,221,000	\$1,194,767
FY18	\$1,221,000	\$1,202,801
FY17	\$1,221,000	\$1,203,771
FY16	\$1,221,000	\$1,203,869
FY15	\$1,221,000	\$1,209,565
FY14	\$1,221,000	\$1,217,099
FY13	\$1,221,000	\$1,205,468
FY12	\$1,221,000	\$1,213,127
FY11	\$1,745,000	\$1,628,177
FY10	\$1,842,000	\$1,835,566

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:**

About 90% of school districts and 62% of tribal schools are on the K-20 Network, and all have been served annually by this program each year since FY00.

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

N/A

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:**

K-12 schools usage of the K-20 Network continues to grow at a rate of 40-50% annually, and schools are increasingly relying on the network for online instructional resources for students as well as online assessments.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

Reduced funding levels since FY12 jeopardize the delivery of technical support and training to support the K-20 network, both at OSPI and the ESD level. Originally funded in FY00-03 at \$2.0 million annually, funding was reduced to \$1.939 M. annually for FY04-09, further reduced to \$1.842 M. in FY10 and \$1.745 M. in FY11,

and level-funded at \$1.221 M. annually beginning in FY12. While usage of the K-20 Network continues to grow by 40-50% annually, support for staffing adjusted for inflation is less than half of the initial amount, and FTE supported at each ESD has decreased from 1.5 FTE to 0.6 FTE.

10. **Future opportunities:**

The high-availability K-20 educational network is critical for schools and districts today. Administration, training and instruction have moved online—standards-based courseware, instructional software, professional development for educators (especially where travel budgets are minimal), family and community communication, and instruction by video conference for students who are disabled or live in remote locations are just a few of the many components of K-12 education that depend on the K-20 network. All these activities are *mission critical* for Washington's public schools. It is also important to point out that the expanding operation of the network is compounded by a growing interest in downloadable open source software and instructional resources for education and administration, all of which lands on the K-20 network. If the state is to meet the basic needs of the K-12 sector, the human and technological infrastructure needs to expand as well.

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

Budget Proviso: ESSB 6168 Section 501(2)(b) - \$1,221,000 of the general fund -- state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and \$281,000 of the general fund -- state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for K-20 telecommunications network technical support in the K-12 sector to prevent system failures and avoid interruptions in school utilization of the data processing and video-conferencing capabilities of the network. These funds may be used to purchase engineering and advanced technical support for the network.

12. **Other relevant information:**

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13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

See [OSPI's Grantee List](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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