



## **Core Plus Maritime Programs**

1. **Purpose:**

The purpose of the Core Plus Maritime grant is to:

- Develop knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for consistency and rigor of secondary career and technical education in support of careers in Maritime Industry.
- Prepare students for direct industry employment upon graduation, in the Maritime industry through use of the Core Plus Student Certificate.
- Expand access to and awareness of the vast opportunities offered in the Maritime industry.
- Create a structured pathway to employment in the Maritime industry to employment, which utilizes an organized program of study.
- Provide professional development for instructors to better deliver comprehensive instruction in the field of Maritime manufacturing.
- Provide funds to defray the costs of consumables, materials and equipment, and other necessary aspects of the Core Plus Maritime program of study.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Grants are provided to school districts and skill centers, to support annual start-up costs associated with providing Maritime manufacturing programs, professional development of instructors leading these programs, and for the creation and implementation of a Core Plus Maritime Program of Study.

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

Grantees must be willing to engage in developing local business and industry partnership for oversight and input regarding program components in partnership with the Maritime sector lead, the Manufacturing Industrial Council of Seattle. Grantees are encouraged to provide student access to SkillsUSA-WA or another regional or state competition that tests student's maritime or manufacturing knowledge, skills and abilities. Qualifying programs may be offered in one of thirteen manufacturing-based courses, begin to align to the recommend scope and sequence of courses and a final report is required to OSPI.

**Beneficiaries in 2020-21 School Year:**

**Number of School Districts:** 12

**Number of Schools:** 13  
**Number of Students:** n/a  
**Number of Educators:** 13  
**Other:** 0

**Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):** 0 FTE  
**Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding:** 0

**FY21 Funding: State Appropriation:** \$300,000  
**Federal Appropriation:** \$0  
**Other fund sources:** \$0  
**TOTAL (FY21)** \$300,000

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
FY21	\$300,000	\$299,249
FY20	\$300,000	\$290,000

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

Fiscal Year	Number of School Districts	Number of Schools	Number of Skill Centers	Number of Educators
FY21	13	12	5	13
FY20	8	8	2	8

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

This is the second year of Core Plus Maritime grant funding. Core Plus grants initially started with Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing specific funding in 2013. This is the second year of sector expansion with the addition of Core Plus Construction and Core Plus Maritime, managed through separate proviso and separate grants.

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

Due to the unprecedented events of COVID-19 and the shutdown of onsite instruction, Core Plus showed one of its biggest strengths is the natural community it has built. Core Plus leaders continued to offer bi-monthly meetings to convene with all Core Plus instructors (current and previous grant awardees) to provide support and collaboration to create a bank of meaningful online activities and resources to keep kids engaged and learning at home. Professional development opportunities shifted from hands-on, skill-based training to program specific training allowing for continuous improvement of programs and better alignment to industry recommendations.

Additionally, Core Plus Maritime sector leaders convened Maritime educators and Industry to complete, vet and submit for statewide approval of a 540-hour framework and curriculum with equivalencies in math, science and English Language Arts (ELA). The Superintendent of Public Instruction approved these statewide equivalencies in March 2021.

The creation of a new Core Plus database has allowed better data collection, the ability to evaluate program alignment to industry, and identify the need for partnership levels to allow Core Plus leadership to monitor/assess programs and build supports for each level of engagement.

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

COVID-19 created the obvious challenge of how to teach hands-on technical skills virtually. Although students were able to continue learning about the Maritime industry, online/distance learning prohibited or limited the hands-on skill development opportunities students needed to complete the requirements to earn the Core Plus certificate. COVID-19 also created barriers for instructors to attend the required cohort collaborations and many of those meetings had to be held virtually.

10. **Future opportunities:**

The Core Plus Maritime programs continue to be adopted as a model for career and technical education programs. There has been increased interest in the program from a variety of Maritime and Advanced manufacturing employers recognizing the ever-growing need as many workers are aging out of this industry. More businesses are providing greater access to guest speakers, field trips, guest educators in the classroom and teacher and counselor externships, as well as providing input and validating curriculum for the expansion of Core Plus programs of study.

Further development and refinement of the Student Certificate will ensure that all students who are in a recognized Core Plus Maritime program have priority interview status with employment partners in maritime industries throughout the state. This style of student certificate is a new concept for many educators as well as business and industry hiring representatives so providing professional development and

community outreach activities regarding use and acceptance of this student certificate as a skill assessment and employment-screening tool is imperative. Core Plus is also exploring electronic badging as a way for students to complete badges that represent key competencies and can lead to alignment to direct employment, apprenticeship and post-secondary options for students.

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

ESSB 5092, Sec. 1518 (2)(d)(iii) \$300,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and \$300,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for annual startup, expansion, or maintenance of existing programs in maritime programs.

12. **Other relevant information:**

OSPI hired a Core Plus Project Coordinator in 2019 to promote, monitor, and manage the Core Plus program development and professional development, track grant awards, conduct data collection, cultivate industry buy-in and necessary employer engagement activities, and build systems for strategic expansion Core Plus programs. This allowed industry and education to work together to build a better system and structure to track, evaluate and support Core Plus programs. This position was not funded through this proviso.

Core Plus is explicitly called out as a program that meets the criteria of the CTE Graduation Pathway. Expansion of Core Plus programs, including Core Plus Maritime will be a likely focus of districts across the state.

All three sector leaders of Core Plus (Aerospace, Construction and Maritime), continue to meet regularly to unify systems and body of work to make it easier for schools to adopt one or more Core Plus Programs. Professional development opportunities are regularly provided by OSPI, the Manufacturing Industrial Council, and other industry partners such as the Association of General Contractors (AGC) Education Foundation, Boeing, Lakeside Industries, SafeBoats, Woolridge Boats and AJAC. Several of the Core programs offer OSHA 10-Hour Certification, Forklift Operator Certification, and First aid/CPR Certification. All programs are actively exploring options to gain additional industry-recognized certificates and certification as directed by their local advisory boards.

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

See [OSPI's Grantee List](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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