PACK Act Grant Requirements 2024

Grant Information Call July 10, 2023

KANSAS
STATE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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PACK Act Basics

- HB 2466 (http://www.kslegislature.org/li_2022/b2021_22/measures/documents/hb2466_enrolled.pdf)
- Enrolled 7/1/2022
- CS
  - Requires public high schools to offer CS ("shall offer" not "shall require")
  - $1 million for in-service teacher PD (renewed in budget bill for 2023-24)
  - Scholarships for pre-service teachers
  - Reporting (Grantee to KSDE and KSDE to Governor and Legislature)

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PACK Act CS Requirements

- "Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year,

- each secondary school operated by a school district shall offer at least one computer science course or

- a school district shall submit a plan to the state board of education describing
  - how such district intends to offer such course and
  - the school year such course will first be offered."

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Continued

- The course shall

  - (1)   Be high quality;

  - (2)   meet or exceed the Kansas model standards for computer science established by the state board of education; and

  - (3)   be made available in a traditional classroom setting, blended learning environment, online-based or other technology-based format that is tailored to meet the needs of each secondary school and each participating student.

Continued

- High Quality is important in all courses, but is not a defined education metric
- List of courses meeting this requirement will be maintained on KSDE Computer Science content page
  - https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Career-Standards-and-Assessment-Services/Content-Area-A-E/Computer-Science
  - This list of courses is NOT intended to satisfy graduation requirements or CTE pathway requirements
- May be on campus or online, or through arrangement with PostSecondary provider

PACK Act vs Graduation vs CTE

PACK Act Req.

- Each Secondary School must offer
- No requirement for students to take
- Academic course, teacher licensed at grade level
- Must meet or exceed part of CS Standards

Graduation Req.

- Each Secondary School must offer
- All students must take
- CS MAY count as math or science credit if ...
- Academic or CTE
- Must encompass all of CS standards (only course: CSP)

CTE Pathway

- Each Secondary School may offer
- Students take to become completers
- CTE course, teacher CTE licensed
- 4 IT pathways
- Based on local B&I needs

Teacher Qualifications

- Course teacher of record must meet one of two requirements
- Course in CTE pathway: teacher must hold
  - CTE licensure appropriate to course content; or
  - Licensure at grade level plus training according to Licensed Personnel Guide Part 5
- Course not in CTE pathway: academic teacher must hold
  - Licensure at grade level
  - CS endorsement does not currently exist

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Professional Learning Grants

- Reimbursement-based Grants to "High Quality professional learning" providers
- Total amount: $1,000,000
- No maximum and no minimum per provider
- Money must be expended by 6/30/24
- Kansas state grant, not federal grant, so some traditional considerations do not exist (e.g., no GANs will be issued)
- Applications received prior to due date will be competitive; applications received after will be considered based on remaining funds.

Key Dates

- 7/10/23: Informational Zoom Session
- 8/11/23: Application due date
- 8/31/23: Award notices sent
- Ongoing: Grant award modifications considered (two week turnaround)
- 6/30/24: Deadline for expenditures
- 8/31/24: Final reports due

Provider Eligibility

- Any:
  - School district;
  - School district interlocal cooperative;
  - School district cooperative;
  - Institution of higher education;
  - Nonprofit organization; or
  - Private entity
- That:
  - Has successfully designed, implemented, and scaled high-quality professional learning for teachers; and
  - Is approved or recommended by the state board of education

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Evidence for Recommendation

- Provider must be "approved or recommended by the state board of education as providing high-quality professional learning"

- Examples of evidence include:
  - Results of third-party data collection
  - Accreditation by a recognized third party competent to make such accreditation such as (but not limited to):
    - Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA)
    - Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
    - Properly licensed use of existing evidence-based learning curriculum/materials

Permissible Uses of Funds

- Grants awarded pursuant to this section may be used:
  - Providing high-quality professional learning;
  - Credentialing for computer science teachers including, but not limited to, reimbursement to teachers or providing for PD, exam fees, or college coursework;
  - Supporting computer science professional learning, including mentoring and coaching;
  - Creating resources to support implementation of this act;
  - Student recruitment; and
  - The development of teacher preparation programs

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Applications Shall Address How To

- (1)   Recruit new and existing teachers with little to no computer science background;

- (2)   use research-based or evidence-based practices for high quality professional development;

- (3)   focus the professional learning on the conceptual foundations of computer science;

- (4)   reach and support marginalized racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in computer science;

- (5)   provide teachers with concrete experience with hands-on, inquiry-based practices;

- (6)   accommodate both teacher and student needs; and

- (7)   ensure that participating districts shall begin offering a computer science course within the same or next school year after the teacher receives the professional learning.

Priorities Assigned:

- School districts that work in partnership with providers of high-quality professional learning;

- Proposals that describe strategies to enroll female students, students from marginalized racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in computer science, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, students with disabilities and English language learners; and

- Proposals from rural or urban areas that experience difficulties providing computer science offerings.

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Reporting

- January 15 of each year, Board (e.g., CSAS) reports to Governor and Legislature:
  - (A)   The number of secondary schools that offered at least one computer science course;
  - (B)   the number of high-quality professional learning providers that received grants pursuant to section 4, and amendments thereto;
  - (C)   the number of teachers prepared by high-quality professional learning providers;
  - (D)   the number of teachers teaching computer science courses as compared to the number of teachers prepared by high-quality professional learning providers; and
  - (E)   the number of students reached, including the number and percentage of such students disaggregated by gender, race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status, by high-quality professional learning providers.

Grantee Required Reporting

- On or before August 31, 2024 (and, in some cases, annually thereafter), Awardees must report:
  - (1)   The number of teachers prepared;
  - (2)   the number of students reached;
  - (3)   the number and percent of students reached disaggregated by gender, race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status; and
  - (4)   the number of teachers and school districts that implemented computer science courses versus the number of prepared teachers that attended professional learning.

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Key Fiscal Points:

- Limit invoicing to 1 per month

- Ensure that expense categories on invoices align with budget categories on grant application

- Include both Joyce Broils (administrator) and Stephen King on correspondence with KSDE

- Ensure invoice details clearly indicate expenditures have occurred, not will occur.

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Questions?

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