

Federal Grant Application Request
Oregon Department of Education
Evaluation of Educator Effectiveness

Analyst: Doug Wilson

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of up to \$2.9 million for a five year grant for evaluation of educator effectiveness.

Recommendation: Approve the Request.

Analysis: The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is requesting authority to apply for a five-year \$2.9 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Educational Sciences. This grant will evaluate issues relating to evaluate the effectiveness of the new Educator Evaluation System. Issues related to effectiveness, mobility and distribution of the teacher workforce and the effect on student achievements. The study will examine data across districts as well as using a teacher survey focused on the Educator Evaluation System. The district by district component will allow the research team to look at various implementation strategies identifying which approaches lead to the best student achievement gains.

The ODE will partner with the American Institutes for Research (AIS) who will perform most of the work associated with the grant. The Department will retain \$168,000 annually of the grant and the remainder will be for the services provided by and through AIS. There is no match for the grant and no further state staff will be required for the grant. The details of the grant were released on March 12th and the grant application is due June 10th.

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) recommends approval of the request to apply for the evaluation of educator effectiveness grant in an amount of up to \$2.9 million.

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Oregon Department of Education

Kate Brown, Governor

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Voice: 503-947-5600
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June 2, 2015

The Honorable Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) respectfully requests approval to apply for a 5-year, \$2.9 million grant from the Institute of Educational Sciences (IES). This grant falls within IES's "Evaluation of State Programs and Policies" and is entitled "Oregon Evaluation of Educator Effectiveness." Expected annual funding of the project is approximately \$580,000.

Agency Action

The project will evaluate the impact of the program on both student academic outcomes and educator outcomes, particular for classroom teachers. The project will investigate research questions on the effectiveness, mobility, and distribution of the teacher workforce and the corresponding effects on student achievement.

There are no matching requirements for this grant. No additional staff will be hired to administer or implement this grant. ODE will use the funds in collaboration with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) to evaluate the effectiveness of Oregon's new Educator Evaluation System. ODE's annual share is approximately \$163,000, with the remainder going to AIR.

The project will investigate research questions on the effectiveness, mobility and distribution of the teacher workforce and the corresponding effects on student achievement. We will use a quasi-experimental research design, and we will collect data on various implementation features across districts and conduct a teacher survey focused on the evaluation system. These additional data sources will allow us to explore the effects of various implementation models, which should help inform the future decisions by local school systems about how they implement Oregon's educator effectiveness provisions.

Our team is well suited to use these scores to address our research questions. Our research team has conducted extensive studies on the teacher labor market,

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workforce quality, and its impacts on student learning using longitudinal administrative data. ODE and AIR previously worked together to design the new statewide educator evaluation system, and are currently using Oregon data to help understand how licensure and tenure rules affect teacher mobility.

We expect the findings of this project to inform education policy, both in Oregon and other states, by identifying the overall impact of teacher evaluation systems and the impact of individual performance grades on student and educator outcomes. Furthermore, our research on the mechanisms is particularly informative for education policy as we will identify implementation components that are most strongly associated with student achievement gains.

The detail for the grant application was released on March 12, 2015. Applications are due on June 10, 2015. ODE will provide the completed application to the Legislative Fiscal Office as soon as possible.

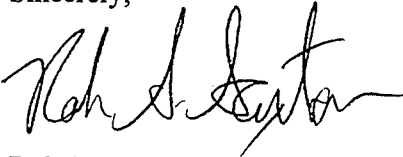
Action Requested

ODE respectfully requests approval to apply for a 5-year, \$2.9 million Oregon Evaluation of Educator Effectiveness grant from the EIS.

Legislation Affected

None.

Sincerely,



Rob Saxton
Deputy Superintendent
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
(503) 947-5740

Cc:

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Doug Wilson, Legislative Fiscal Office