CALL FOR PROPOSALS

WASHINGTON OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES GRANT PILOT PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Revised 12/7/2018

The Washington State Legislature provided funds to the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) to administer an open educational resources (OER) grant pilot program exclusively for the public four-year institutions of higher education (IHE) in the State of Washington.

WSAC released a Call for Proposals on November 7, 2018. A grant received under the pilot program may be used to fund a campus coordinator or provide support to faculty, or both, as described here:

1) CAMPUS COORDINATOR: Create a designated campus coordinator who will be the campus lead and centralized contact regarding OER.

2) FACULTY SUPPORT: Support faculty to adopt and modify, or create new, OER for the purpose of reducing students' cost of attendance. Faculty may not use grant funding to duplicate OER that are already free and publicly available.

WSAC will prioritize applications that estimate the highest cost reduction to students.

AMENDMENTS TO CALL FOR PROPOSALS
This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is an addendum to the Call for Proposals. It contains responses to inquiries and amends the Call for Proposals, if indicated.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: Are indirect costs allowable? If so, what is the rate?
Reference: Call for Proposals, Page 9 "Project Budget and Budget Narrative"
Response: Indirect costs are allowable. It is up to the IHE to determine the indirect rate it charges for funded programs such as this one.

QUESTION 2: The estimate of textbook cost reduction will list several anticipated course projects. Since our proposed faculty development effort will not start until later in the year, may the project substitute courses after the award date?

Reference: Call for Proposals, Pages 8-9 "Estimate of Textbook Cost Reduction"

Response: Yes. WSAC anticipates the IHE will update with information that is more current its estimate of textbook cost reduction as the project progresses.

QUESTION 3: In estimating the cost of new course materials, does the project use the new price students would pay at the IHE's bookstore? Students may be able to purchase new course materials at a lower price as an e-book, for instance.

Reference: Call for Proposal, Page 8 "Estimate of Textbook Cost Reduction"

Response: Estimate this to the best of the IHE's knowledge at the time of submitting the proposal and document the underlying assumptions for costs of the new course materials.

QUESTION 4: May faculty use a variety of OER to redesign a course? In other words, are innovative uses of a curated collection of OER materials in a redesigned course sufficient or must faculty modify the materials themselves? May the award be used for institutional software that supports OER?

Reference: Call for Proposals, Page 6 "DEFINITIONS"

Response: The grant award allows for a wide swathe of proposed activities that will address the ever-escalating costs of textbook and course materials for students. All of these solutions are acceptable activities.

QUESTION 5: The proposals due deadline is a significant issue for us. Is the proposal deadline firm?

Reference: Call for Proposals, Page 1 "IMPORTANT DATES"

Response: Yes, the Proposals Due date and time is firm and will not be extended - December 7, 2018, at 5:00 PM PST.

QUESTION 6: May we submit two letters of commitment with the OER proposal? The instructions indicate a limit of just one, however, we would like to submit more than one.

Reference: Call for Proposals, Page 9 "*Letter of Commitment from IHE Leadership*"

Response: Yes, proposals may include more than one letter of commitment from IHE leadership.