



# Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

## *Career Launch Programs*

### 1. **Purpose:**

This expands full-time equivalent (FTE) funding to 1.2 FTE maximum for students enrolled in Career Launch Endorsed (CLE) programs. It enables districts to extend the provision of instructional and work-based learning opportunities beyond the funded school day or school year.

### 2. **Description of services provided:**

Funding provided to school districts enables the extension of instructional or work-based opportunities, supporting additional time outside of the scheduled school day or into the summer. Registered apprenticeship, registered pre-apprenticeship, and programs endorsed through the Career Launch Endorsement Review (CLER) committee are eligible to apply for this funding. Students enrolled in programs that have been endorsed as Career Launch as defined within the Career Connect Washington (CCW) system have a 1.2 FTE maximum; this additional FTE was funded to continue to expand access to Career Launch programming.

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

All the following elements must be present for a program to qualify to be a Career Launch Endorsed (CLE) program; classroom learning aligned to industry and academic standards, supervised and paid work experience; and the opportunity to earn an industry-recognized credential beyond a high school diploma or forty-five college credits. State registered apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship programs also automatically qualify as a CLE program. Students enrolled in CLE have a 1.2 FTE maximum, enabling districts to extend the provision of instructional and work-based learning opportunities beyond the funded school day or school year.

#### **Beneficiaries in 2021-22 School Year:**

Number of School Districts:	1
Number of Schools:	1
Number of Students:	47
Number of Educators:	0
Other:	N/A

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 0

Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 0

**FY22 Funding:** State Appropriation: \$480,000  
Federal Appropriation: \$0  
Other Fund Sources: \$0  
TOTAL (FY22) \$480,000

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

No

**5. State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2022	\$480,000	\$0
2021	\$480,000	\$0
2020	\$158,000	\$88,000

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

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools
2020	1
2021	Not reported

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

The pandemic caused inherent barriers for the expansion of CLE programs. CLE program growth relies on collaborative partnerships between K-12, higher education, and employers. Even into the 2021-22 school year, students were unable to consistently be in classrooms at both the secondary and post-secondary level, significantly limiting instructional access. In addition, businesses were reducing job availability or pivoting to new business models, limiting paid work-site opportunities.

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

Program metrics were adversely impacted by the pandemic. Despite the significant detractors, several districts reported an increase in CLE programming and CLE student enrollment this past year but had reduced opportunities to access the dedicated funding for enhanced FTE outside of the regular school day. For the 2021-22 school year, 74 students across three districts were reported as enrolled in CLE programming, with one district accessing the 1.2 FTE funding.

Since CLE inception, CEDARS has been providing CLE coding guidance for districts. With limited enrollments, districts fell out of practice and systemic CLE coding issues have been identified. OSPI and CCW have begun implementing professional development and providing technical support for K-12 to ensure they capture this data and access the enhanced funding for their CLE enrollments.

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

Continued intermittent interruptions resulting from COVID-19 closures and quarantines have had a residual detrimental impact on student access to worksite learning. Employer delay in hiring and challenges with staffing also hindered the efforts of the nine CCL Coordinators and the CCW Program Specialist to fully implement and support the program during the 2021-22 school year.

The 1.2 FTE limitation requires that students exceed their existing 1.0 FTE before accessing the additional .2 FTE. Therefore, students enrolled in Career and Technical instructional programs in approved CLE programs may be enrolled in programs, but not accessing the additional FTE. Similarly, if students were on the worksite as part of their paid work experience, that could be scheduled as part of their day and not exceed their FTE limitations. So, while we will continue to evolve guidance on school reporting - with Career Launch programs still in relative infancy, and fewer students working outside of scheduled time last year, the need to exceed FTE limitations and collect additional funds has been impacted.

## 10. **Future opportunities:**

This is a critical opportunity for program expansion. The endorsement of additional Career Launch applicants will increase the number of eligible school districts, and eligible students for these programs. The application for Career Launch has been modified to become more user-friendly and is expected to support increased applications for endorsement.

Increasing K-12 staff awareness of the additional funding to support CLE programs and provision of direct support for CLE program applicants will increase the number of students training for family and sustaining-wage careers. In anticipation of significant growth, continuation of this funding to support this work will enable more students to gain experience in internship or apprenticeship in the pursuit of their post-secondary plans. Additional funding for supporting partnership engagement will enable opportunities to reach children furthest from educational justice.

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

ESSB 5693, Sec. 501(5)(b) - \$960,000 of the workforce education investment account—state appropriation is provided solely for increasing the funding per full time equivalent for career launch programs as described in [RCW 28A.700.130](#). In the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, for career launch enrollment exceeding the funding provided in this subsection, funding is provided in section 504 of this act.

**12. Other relevant information:**

Receiving Career Launch endorsement directly links businesses to a recognized statewide program and establishes them as community and education proponents.

Career Launch programs may be initiated in a secondary education system and completed in a postsecondary education system or first year of paid employment, as long as all parties jointly plan the program.

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

See [OSPI's grantee list](#).

**14. Program Contact Information:**

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