




PAsmart Grants Webinar

Targeted K-12 Computer Science & STEM Education Grants

Tuesday November 20, 2018
3:30PM to 4:30PM

Hosted by:
Pennsylvania Department of Education





As you have questions, please drop them silently in the chat. We will monitor the questions and get to them at the end.

We will also have open question time at the end.



▶ What is PAsmart?

PAsmart is a new strategic approach to education and workforce development:

1. Investing in initiatives to support economic growth, education and training opportunities
2. Strategic coordination and alignment of public programs, services, and funding
3. Transforming inter-agency, cross-sector collaboration to enhance resources
4. Creating better outcomes for PA students, workers, businesses, and communities



▶ What are the PAsmart Grants?

PAsmart Grants is a **\$31.6 million investment** in education and workforce development.

- **\$20 Million:** Computer Science and STEM Education
- **\$7 Million:** Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship
- **\$4.6 Million:** Next Generation Industry Partnerships



▶ What are the PAsmart Grants?

For more information on the PAsmart grant initiatives, please visit:

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/pasmart-grants/>



▶ What are the Education Grants?

Computer Science and STEM Education

- 1. Targeted Grants** – structured to meet the needs of LEAs and their schools that have zero, or very few, CS offerings of any kind. These grants have a low risk entry point for applicants and are to help applicants build the infrastructure to apply for “Advancing” Grants in the future.
- 2. Advancing Grants** – high-level comprehensive grants meant to support entities that have 50 or more students participating in CS/STEM experiences. The purpose of these grants is to give regions a chance to leverage or expand CS/STEM ecosystems.

▶ What are Targeted Grants?

Targeted Grants help LEAs with zero, or very few, CS offerings get started:

- **Phase 1** – At least 4 educators attend professional development during spring/summer 2019. They learn how to incorporate CS standards into their classroom.
- **Phase 2** – Following the training, educators implement what they learned and offer regular CS programming. Follow-on funding will be made available.



Who is eligible to apply?

- **Only LEAs** (school district, CTC, charter school, IU) in Pennsylvania may apply.
- **Only one application** per LEA.
- The application may include educators from more than one school within the LEA.

➤ What is in the current application?

The currently open application is meant for Phase 1 only, and is meant to be accessible to LEAs without grant writers and educators with no CS experience.

- 30 minutes to complete.
- Asks for current status of CS program.
- Asks who would like to attend training.
- Asks for their availability.
- Confirms that all educators will implement CS programming immediately after training.

▶ Application Checklist

- Identify your team(s) of educators. All grades K-12 welcome, and no previous CS experience is required for any participating educator.
- Consider what type of professional development team members need. If considering an alternative provider, collect information about that providers offerings and make sure they meet PDE's professional development criteria.
- Decide which dates work best for the team to attend workshops. You will be asked to provide a date range in the application.

➤ Application Checklist

- Ask your school administrator(s) for a signed letter of support stating they will provide release time for you to meet the obligations of this grant. To do one better, get your administrators to attend, too!
- Review relevant grant information:
<https://www.governor.pa.gov/PAsmart-Grants>
- Start drafting your application based on the questions released! Because you can only submit the application once, it is highly recommended that you draft your answers in a separate document to copy and paste into the application portal.

▶ What are the PD options?

[Code.org](#) Workshops (appropriate for all grades K-12)

[Apple Everyone Can Code](#) (appropriate for all grades K-12)

[CSFirst](#) (appropriate for students ages 9-14)

[Beauty and Joy of Computing](#) (appropriate for high school students)

You may apply for approval to attend alternative programming.



▶ Alternative CS Workshop Approval

Applicants must fill out a separate form found here:

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/pasmart-grants/>

Alternative workshops approved for grant funding must meet criteria in the following categories (outlined in form):

- Access, and Equity of Access
- Training Capacity
- Content

If you want to attend an alternative workshop, attach the completed form to your application.



▶ What funding is available?

LEAs may receive a maximum of \$35,000 of targeted grant funding.

- Up to \$10,500 can be used to support educators participating in the CS training.
 - Staff time to participate in grant activities.
 - Reimbursement costs incurred for the participation and replacement for educators.
 - Certification exams, if applicable.
- Up to \$24,500 may be used to purchase eligible hardware, products, and training to implement computer science education in the classroom.



▶ Funding Priorities for Targeted Grants

Priority will be given to proposals that:

1. Demonstrate the greatest ability to increase access and equity to CS and STEM education.
2. Present the highest need for CS/STEM programming (for example, schools that are currently with zero offerings in LEAs with zero offerings)
3. Focus on training and professional development for teachers in grades K-8 to support early awareness of CS/STEM.
4. Include teams of educators from diverse grade levels and/or include at least one administrator from the LEA.



Questions?



➤ Thank you!

We really look forward to reading
your application!

Due Friday December 14!

