What is the purpose of the STEM Capital Grants? The 2015-2017 Washington State Legislature established the STEM Pilot Project grant to provide funding to under-resourced school districts for the modernization and construction of science lab learning spaces. You can learn more about the previous round of grant awards by reading the **STEM Pilot Program 2017** report. The 2018 Washington State Legislature appropriated $10 million in capital funding for the STEM Capital grants.

Who can apply for a STEM Capital Grant? Public school districts within Washington state that have not previously received a STEM Capital Grant in the last three years (2015-2017) may apply. Districts may only submit one grant application but can include multiple schools within the district. Schools must serve grades nine through twelve or any combination thereof.

Can private schools or charter schools apply for the STEM Capital Grant? No, the funding is only available for public school districts.

What can STEM Capital Grants be used for? STEM Capital Grants can be used for the design, renovation, and modernization of existing space or construction of additional square footage of classroom space specifically for science and science lab learning experiences. Projects must be connected to an existing building. In addition to construction, allowable project costs may include project management costs; design costs; furnishings, fixtures, and non-consumable equipment; and necessary utility and information technology systems upgrades to support specialized STEM facilities.

Can the project be a standalone building? No.

Can the STEM Capital Grant be used for an outdoor classroom space? If the project is an outdoor classroom space, that space must be connected to an existing building and MUST include structural components such as a covering, electricity, and water.

Are these grants just for renovating, modernizing, or constructing at the high school level? Yes.

How many applications can I submit? School Districts may only submit one application; however, the application may include projects at multiple schools within the district.

Can multiple districts submit proposals for one joint project? The legislation does not prohibit this but if awarded, the funds will be received by only one district.

When is the application deadline? Applications, and all documents required to be uploaded as part of the application, are due Monday, October 15, 2018, no later than 4:00 p.m. Early applications will be accepted.

Is the $100,000 private donation a requirement to receive a STEM Capital Grant? Yes. Districts must have a secured private donation of cash, like-kind, or equipment in a value of no less than $100,000.

What is the deadline for securing this required private donation? The deadline for securing this donation is November 2018 before final grant awards are announced and funds released for reimbursement.

Would donation of land and/or a building that could be renovated into a school district's STEM facility qualify as a "private donation?" Yes, this type of private donation would be eligible.

Would a pledge of an internship through the length of the grant and beyond be eligible toward the private match requirement? Yes, however the proposed work would have to be described in detail including a timeline documenting the dollar amount associated with the $100,000 match. We encourage applicants to include as much detail as possible in their application.

What is the amount of each grant? We anticipate budget requests between $100,000 and $2,000,000. The legislation mandates that grants will not exceed $2,000,000.

Can district labor be included in the cost of a Stem Capital Grant project? No. District indirect charges are not allowed, and in-house labor costs will not be reimbursed.

Where can I go for more information? OSPI has created a STEM Classroom and Lab Capital Grant Program **webpage** filled with resources, guidelines, and further contact information.

Will there be a webinar? Yes, Washington STEM hosted an informational webinar for applicants on July 16, 2018. You can listen to a recording of the webinar **here.**