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| **Name of Grant Program:** Innovation Pathways Support Grant for Current Designees  | **Fund Code: 419**  |

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| PART III – REQUIRED PROGRAM INFORMATION |

**Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Executive Office of Education**

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**Innovation Pathway**

**Planning Grant Application**

**Winter 2022**

***For high schools that received the Innovation Pathways designation
in 2018, 2019, or 2020***

**Background**

Since the inception of [Innovation Pathways](https://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/innovation-pathways/), beyond one-time implementation grants, designated programs have not had access to funding for the explicit purpose of supporting existing pathways.

The FY22 State Budget includes funding for Innovation Pathways. The line item reads as follows:

*7027-0020 For the implementation, operation and expansion of innovation pathway programs; provided, that such programs shall incorporate the guiding principles of innovation pathway programs, as developed jointly by the department of elementary and secondary education and the department of higher education; and provided further, that preference shall be given to programs that encourage career opportunities in high demand industries $600,000*

DESE is interpreting that this new, additional funding should be used to support infrastructure that is already in place and not currently receiving Innovation Pathway implementation funding.

**Eligibility**

Eligible applicants will be districts who received [Innovation Pathway Designation from DESE in 2018, 2019, and 2020](https://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/innovation-pathways/designees.html).

In order to be considered for funding, applicants must complete the [**intent to apply form**](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6693945/FY2022-Innovation-Pathways-Support-Grant-Intent-to-Apply) by 5:00 PM on February 4, 2022. **Submission of this form does not constitute an application for funding.**

**Applications for support funding are due by 5:00 PM on February 17, 2022.**

Preference may be given to a district who has not received Innovation Pathway Grants in the past.

**Funding**

A total amount of $600,000 will be available to eligible applicants.

An LEA may submit only one application. The maximum award is up to $30,000 for applicants that offer multiple pathways. Applicants that offer a single pathway are eligible for a maximum award of $15,000.

Dollar amounts listed here are estimated/approximate and are subject to change. If DESE receives fewer than anticipated submissions, for example, funding will be distributed under the same guidelines.

**Fund Use**

Targeted funds from the state will help the designees address challenges associated with program implementation, as relates to work-based learning experiences and student attainment of industry recognized credentials. These funds can also be applied to expenses associated with student participation in dual-enrollment courses.

This grant cannot be applied towards the secondary school's capital expenses.

**Application Questions**

**In consideration of the information provided above, please answer the following questions.**

1. Please describe your school’s current approach to providing students with the required 100-hour work-based learning opportunity and any pathway-relevant industry recognized credentials.

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1. What are the greatest challenges (name up to three) to providing students with immersive work-based learning experiences? Please describe each challenge and primary consideration for solutions.

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1. How will this funding from the state help you address the challenges identified in the previous question and ensure that you fulfill designation requirements?

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1. If your school is seeking funding to offer students industry recognized credentials, please identify these credentials; describe the rationale for offering the chosen credentials; indicate the number of students implicated; and identify the total cost associated with the provision of the credentials.

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1. If your school is seeking funding to cover the costs associated with student participation in dual-enrollment courses, please indicate the higher education partner; the courses being offered; course rates; the number of students enrolled in the courses; and the total credits that would be supported by this funding.

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