

Funding to Support the Establishment of Innovation Schools

The Innovation School model is cost-neutral with regard to the longer-term operation of schools. However, to support initial planning activities and the successful implementation of creative and bold strategies for one year, the Executive Office of Education (EOE) and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE) have award planning and implementation grants to eligible applicants and partner districts.

Two primary types of funding, \$1.5 million from Massachusetts' Race to the Top (RTTT) award and \$600,000 from the EOE through a grant provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have been available to support the establishment of Innovation Schools in communities across Massachusetts. This fact sheet provides information about the processes by which planning and implementation grants will be awarded.

Innovation Schools Planning and Implementation Grants

A total of \$1.5 million in RTTT funding will be awarded to eligible applicants and participating districts (those that submitted a Memorandum of Understanding to ESE to indicate their commitment to implementing RTTT initiatives) to support the establishment of Innovation Schools. Planning and implementation grants will be awarded as follows.

Type of Award and Eligibility	Funding Priorities	Amount of Award	Deadlines
<p>Planning Grants will be awarded to eligible applicants and RTTT participating districts that have successfully completed the first step of the Innovation School authorization process, the approval of an initial prospectus.</p>	<p>Priority will be given to proposals to establish Innovation Schools in Level 3 and 4 districts and STEM-focused Innovation Schools.</p>	<p>Up to \$15,000 per school</p>	<p>Round 2: Fall/Winter 2012</p>
<p>Implementation Grants will be awarded to eligible applicants and RTTT participating districts that have successfully completed the last step of the approval process, the authorization of the Innovation School by the local school committee.</p>	<p>Priority will be given to proposals to operate Innovation Schools in Level 3 and 4 districts and STEM-focused Innovation Schools.</p>	<p>\$25,000 – \$50,000 per school based on the size of the school and the scope of the initiatives (*based on availability of funds)</p>	<p>Round 2: tbd</p>

Information about grant opportunities can be found at www.mass.gov/edu/innovationschools.