# 2023 Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science

# Professional Learning Grant

## Application Technical Assistance Webinar—March 23, 2023

The following is a list of questions and answers from the webinar.

1. **Question:** Would a letter of commitment from a science/math/computer science initiative, project, or center within an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) meet the letter of commitment requirement for an IHE partner for the consortium?

* **Answer:** A letter of commitment must be signed by a person who has the authority to commit the nonprofit organization or IHE to the activities they are assigned in the Project Plan.

2. **Question:** When it states four to twelve inclusive, does this mean all these grades are mandatory part of the project?

* **Answer:** The grant project will accomplish multiple goals as described in the Request for Applications (RFA) document posted on the 2023 Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science Professional Learning Grant RFA web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r12/mscspl23rfa.asp>. Support and activities to accomplish these goals must be provided for the following grade levels: four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, and twelve.

3. **Question:** The list of non-allowable expenses states that 1) rental of a venue to provide professional learning and 2) food services, refreshments, banquets, meals are not allowable. Does this mean that contracting with a hotel or facility to host statewide gatherings in-person is not allowable?

* **Answer:** Per pages 10–11 in the RFA document, the proposed budget can propose to use funds for rental of a venue to provide professional learning. However, the grantee may not use the grant funds for rental of a venue unless the expense is approved by the California Department of Education as a necessary and reasonable expense. Funds provided under this grant may not be used for Food services, refreshments, banquets, or meals.

4. **Question:** What does a consortium under this grant look like?

* **Answer:** Assembly Bill 185, Chapter 571, Statutes of 2022, Section 53 of the Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill for the 2022–23 California State Budget provided guidance regarding which entities could be in the consortium “(1) “Consortium” means a lead county office of education partnered with one or more nonprofit entities or institutions of higher education, or both, and may include other county offices of education.” The proposed consortium should provide evidence in the application to demonstrate they have the experience to work statewide and accomplish all the goals of the project as described in the RFA document.

5. **Question:** Is the work expected to be more online or could there be in-person events or professional learning?

* **Answer:** Neither online professional learning workshops nor in-person professional learning workshops are prohibited under this grant. The proposed professional learning activities must be made available to educators throughout the state of California and meet the needs of educators. The proposed project plan should consider educators’ time and costs they will incur if they are expected to travel to a professional learning workshop.

If you have questions, please send them via email to [PLSMO@cde.ca.gov](mailto:PLSMO@cde.ca.gov).

California Department of Education  
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