



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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RYAN STEWART, Ed.L.D.
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

September 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, Curriculum and Instruction Directors, Heads of Institutes of Higher Education, and Regional Education Cooperative Executive Directors

FROM: Gwen Perea Warniment, Ph.D., Deputy Secretary, Teaching, Learning, and Assessment *GW*
Jacqueline Costales, Division Director, Curriculum and Instruction *JC*
Yanira Vazquez, Director, Math and Science Bureau *YV*

**RE: Release of 2020–2021 New Mexico Computer Science K–8 Grant Program
Request for Applications**

The New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) adopted the CSTA 2017 Computer Science standards effective on July 1, 2019. Providing rigorous standards for computer science and increasing access to high-quality computer science training programs will help ensure that more K–8 students master computer science skills that lead to rewarding, high-paying, and in-demand careers. Utilizing funds from House Bill 2 (2020), APPROPRIATIONS & EXPENDITURES, NMPED is offering \$300,000 in competitive grants to applicants, as requests for applications, to promote intensive, high-quality professional learning activities that focus on increasing K–8 teachers' computer science content knowledge; to plan expansion of an existing computer science program or institute a new computer science program; and/or to provide support for K–8 public school teachers enrolled in a credentialed computer science program or courses.

The 2020–2021 New Mexico Computer Science K–8 Grant Program Request for Application (RFA) will be released on the [information page of the PED’s website](#) on Monday, September 21, 2020 and all applications must be **submitted by 4:00 pm on Monday, October 12, 2020**. Pursuant to the issuance of the RFA, officials from the PED will host a virtual meeting to provide a high level overview, discuss the intention and guidelines of the RFA with interested stakeholders on Monday, September 21, 2020 from 1:00 pm–2:00 pm MST. Please register for this webinar through the ZOOM link at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpceGsqTorHtJDiaKAvpJbCn0hOFawRQlA>. If you have questions or issues regarding registration, please email Shafiq.Chaudhary@state.nm.us.

For questions regarding the New Mexico Computer Science K–8 Grant Program, please contact Yanira Vazquez, Director of Math and Science Bureau, at Yanira.Vazquez@state.nm.us or Shafiq Chaudhary, Math and Science Specialist, at Shafiq.Chaudhary@state.nm.us.

GW/yv/sc

Enc. (1) New Mexico Computer Science K–8 Grant Program RFA Timeline

cc: Ryan Stewart, Ed.L.D., Secretary of Education
 Adan Delgado, Deputy Secretary
 Timothy Hand, Ph.D., Deputy Secretary
 Katarina Sandoval, Deputy Secretary
 Elaine Perea, Ph.D., Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau

New Mexico Computer Science K–8 Grant Program Timeline

Program managers will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Action	Responsible Party	Due Dates
Discuss RFA with interested stakeholders	PED	September 21, 2020
Issue RFA	PED	September 21, 2020
Deadline to submit Intent to Apply	Potential applicants	September 28, 2020
Deadline to submit questions	Potential applicants	October 2, 2020
Response to questions	PED	October 6, 2020
<i>Submission of applications</i>	<i>Potential applicants</i>	<i>October 12, 2020</i>
Evaluation of applications	Review Panel	October 13–23, 2020
Selection of grantees	Review Panel	October 24, 2020
Finalize award letters	PED/Grantee(s)	October 27 – November 19, 2020