

## Washington STEM Legislative Priorities Evaluation Framework

**Organizational Goal** - Washington STEM's overarching goal is that by 2030, all students will be future-ready and that Washington STEM and statewide partners will triple the number of students of color, students from low-income and rural families, and young women who are on track to earn high-demand credentials and enter family-sustaining careers in the state.

**Washington STEM can support a proposal if all the following questions are answered affirmatively**

- Is the proposal primarily focused on students of color, students from low-income backgrounds, rural students, or young women?
- Does the proposal enable more students to be employed in high-demand, family-sustaining careers? OR Does the proposal enable access to high-quality early learning, with a focus on early math and STEM education? OR Does the proposal enable transparent, timely, and clear data sharing about the Washington education system and workforce? OR Does the proposal support student success?
- Is there evidence and research that suggests that this proposal is the right thing to pursue? (please include references).
- Will the proposal advance racial equity by contributing to closing the opportunity gap?
- Does the proposal include input provided by a diverse set of stakeholders and members of communities impacted by the policy? Can we advocate for an ongoing feedback loop?
- Is Washington STEM in a position to successfully act on or influence this issue?
- Is the proposal viable in the upcoming session? Does it have policy maker support – bipartisan and bicameral?
- Are we clear about what needs to happen legislatively to move this issue forward?
- Is there a risk to not including the proposal in our support agenda?

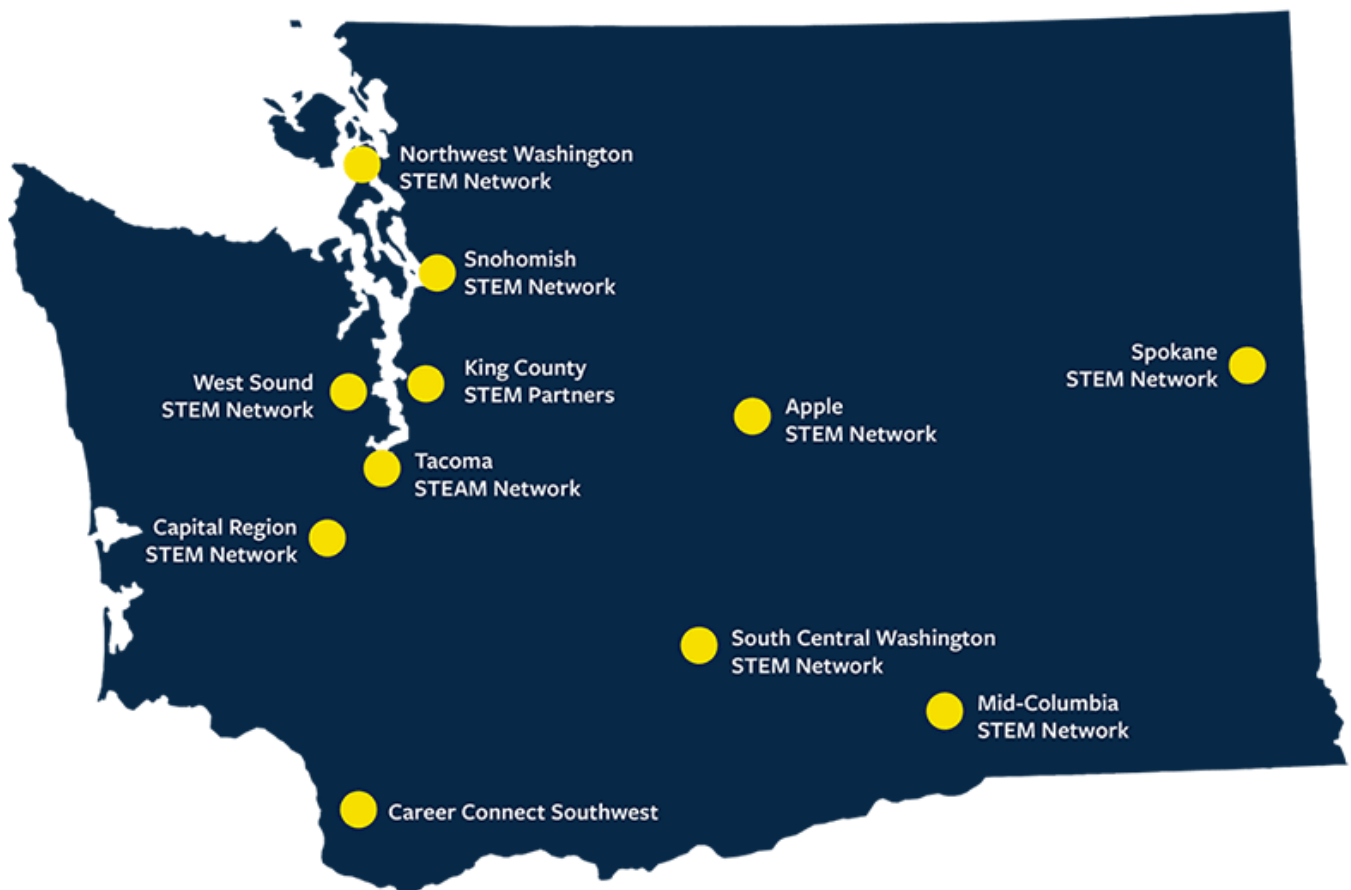
**About Washington STEM:** a statewide nonprofit that works in partnership with eleven regional networks to provide equitable access to education and pathways to careers that earn a family-sustaining wage.

Our work revolves around three main areas:

- **Convene and Partner** with 11 Regional STEM Networks, alongside business, education, and community leaders to identify and scale effective local solutions.
- **Provide direct support** through open-source access to data and measurement tools and targeted financial investments.
- **Advocate** for change through educating decision makers, storytelling, and collaboration to create the foundation for lasting, equitable change in our state.

**Focus on Early STEM and Career Pathways** - Early STEM sparks curiosity and provides foundational math and science literacy before Kindergarten to give students the best start possible in school and life. In Career Pathways, we work with business, education, and community partners to expose and prepare students for exciting careers in technology, advanced manufacturing, health care, agriculture and other high-demand industries in which STEM fuels innovation, economic mobility, and job growth.

**Focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** - In Washington state, STEM education is a pathway that leads to greater economic opportunity and fuller civic participation. We know that some people in our state face far greater barriers to accessing STEM careers. Hence, our priority populations include students of color, students from low- income backgrounds, rural students, and young women.



Questions? Please contact Bish Paul, WA STEM Policy Director at [bish@washingtonstem.org](mailto:bish@washingtonstem.org)