

WASHINGTON STEM 2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Washington STEM is a statewide, education nonprofit leveraging STEM for social change, removing barriers to credential attainment, and creating pathways to long-term economic security for systemically underserved students.

OUR FOCUS AREAS

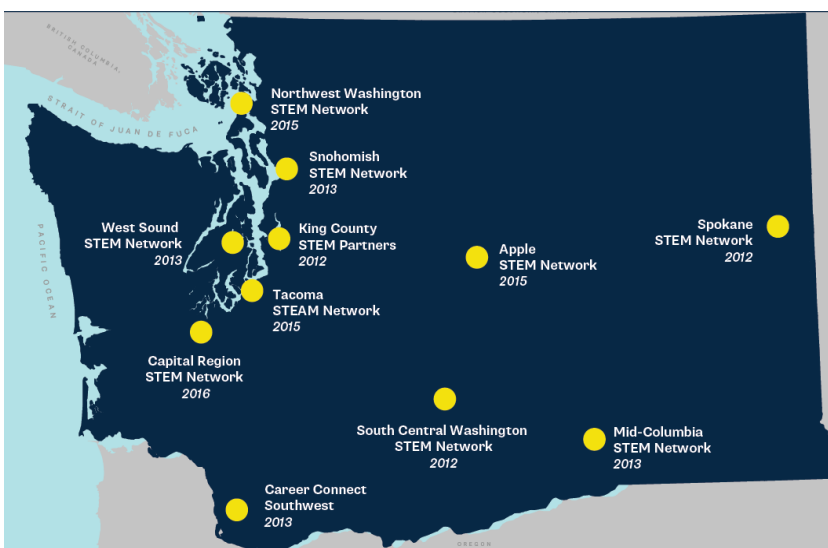
Early Learning: Comprehensive Early learning and childcare reform with high quality, accessible and affordable options for families.

Career Pathways: maintenance of funding for Workforce Investment Education Account which funds student aid & career connected learning.

Statewide Office of Equity: accountability from state agencies requiring development of & reporting on specific equity goals; data disaggregation by race for reporting & measurement of progress against set equity goals.

Broadband expansion & Digital equity

Equitable access to Dual Credit programs



**1,000,000 students
across the state
are supported
through STEM
Network activities
and programs.**

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ABOUT US

Washington STEM is a catalyst for opportunity, possibility, and prosperity in STEM. We work in partnership with eleven regional networks to provide equitable access to STEM education and pathways to careers in the in-demand fields of science, technology, engineering, and math for all Washington students, especially those furthest from opportunity.

At Washington STEM, our work revolves around three main strategies:

- **PARTNERSHIP**
We collaborate with 11 STEM Networks across the state to identify, scale, and spread effective local solutions and convene cross sector partners in business, education, and the community to solve big problems.
- **DIRECT SUPPORT**
We provide direct support through targeted community investments, open-source access to data and measurement tools, and technical assistance.
- **ADVOCACY**
We champion transformative solutions through educating decision makers, storytelling, and collaboration to create the foundation for lasting, equitable change in Washington.

OUR FOCUS

Career Pathways - we work with business, education, and community partners to increase access, opportunity, and the necessary experiences students need for high-demand, family-wage careers in health care, agriculture, technology, advanced manufacturing, and other STEM industries.

Early Learning - We're investing directly in communities, partners, and STEM Networks across the state to foster innovative models of family and community engagement in STEM so that our systems can better serve Washington earliest learners from birth to 8 years old.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

In Washington, STEM education provides a pathway that leads to economic opportunity in every region of our state. These career opportunities lead to the family-wage careers that are essential to growing Washington communities, and yet, some students in our state face far greater barriers to accessing these careers. Our work primarily focuses on Black, Brown, and Indigenous students, students living in rural communities, students from low-income backgrounds, and young women.

STEM Networks - STEM Networks are deeply rooted in their communities and provide local expertise to ensure that local needs are met. Each area of our state is unique and STEM Networks know how to drive maximum impact in STEM for every student in their region.

*This Draft was updated January 2021