

Teacher Shortage Grants Status Update

WACTE Meeting: January 26, 2017

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E2SSB 6455 (2016)

Expanding the professional educator workforce

Statewide recruitment campaign

- Marketing, website, statewide depository for applications, and other actions

Retirees as substitutes

- Loosened the restriction on substituting for former teachers who selected the early retirement option

Mentors

- Substantially increased funding for the state mentor program and expanded it to include alternative route participants

Financial assistance

- Established two new grant programs for teacher preparation candidates



Two new grant programs from Senate Bill 6455

Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program (Sec.15)

To encourage individuals to become teachers by providing financial aid to individuals enrolled in PESB-approved teacher preparation programs

Appropriation: \$468,000* / Codified in RCW 28B.102.090

Student Teaching Residency Grant Program (Sec.17)

To provide additional funds to individuals completing student teaching residencies at Title I public schools in Washington

Appropriation: \$468,000* / Codified in RCW 28B.76.699

*Comes out of the General Fund – State Appropriation for FY17. See Section 610(13) of [2ESHB 2376](#) Supplemental Operating Appropriations



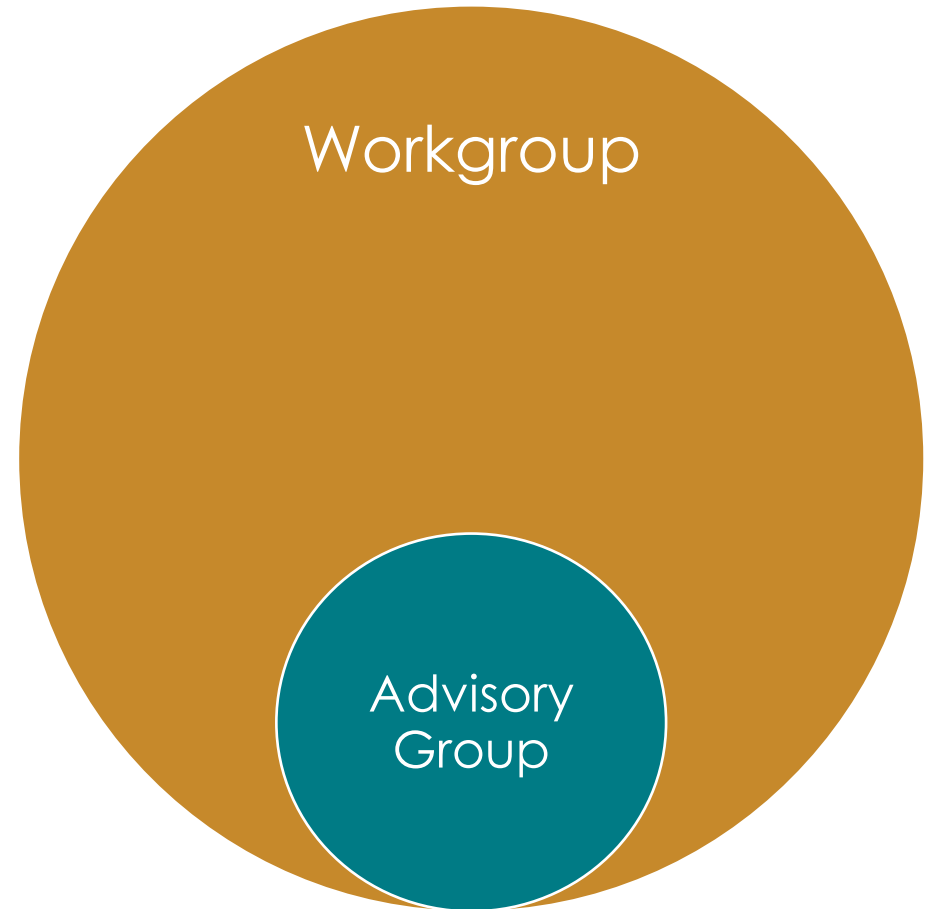
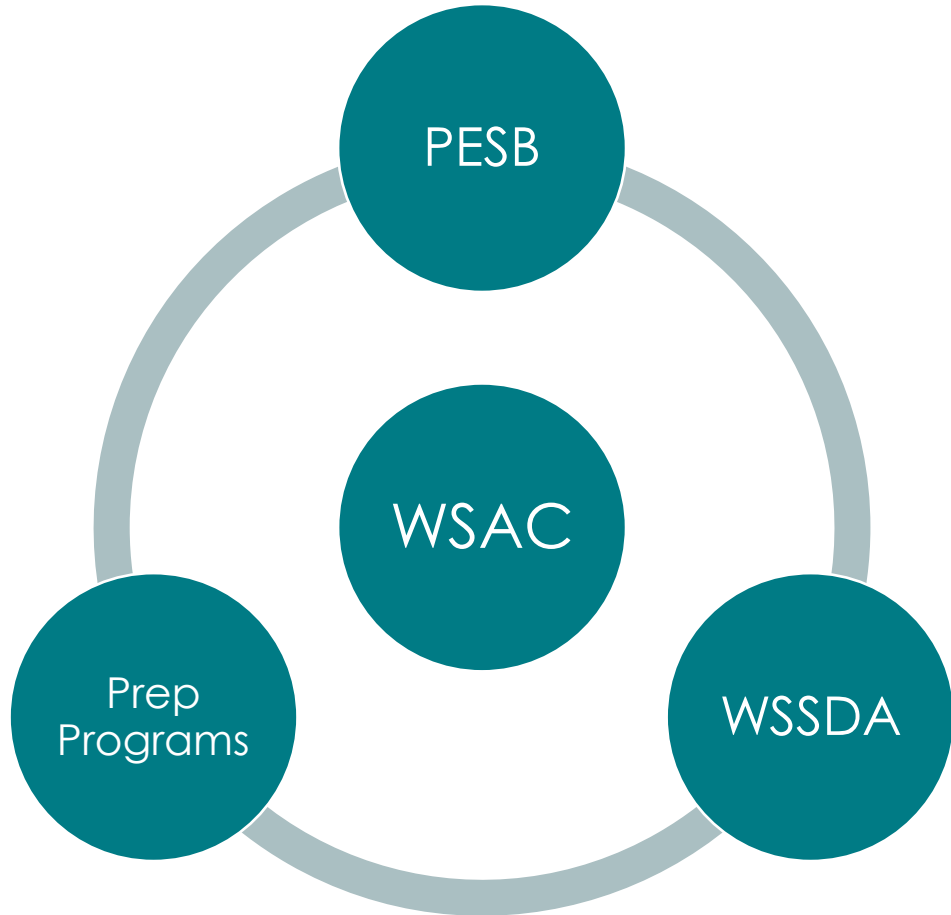
WSAC's statutory authority

	Student Teaching Residency Grant Program	Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program
Development/ rule-making	✓	✓
Administration	✓	✓
Legislative report submission	Not applicable	✓

As part of rule-making process, must collaborate to develop framework



Approach to collaboration





Workgroup charge

To develop the frameworks for the new grant programs

	Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program	Student Teaching Residency Grant Program
Eligibility requirements	✓	✓
Grant amounts	✓	✓
Contractual obligations	✓	Not applicable
Repayment requirements	✓	Not applicable

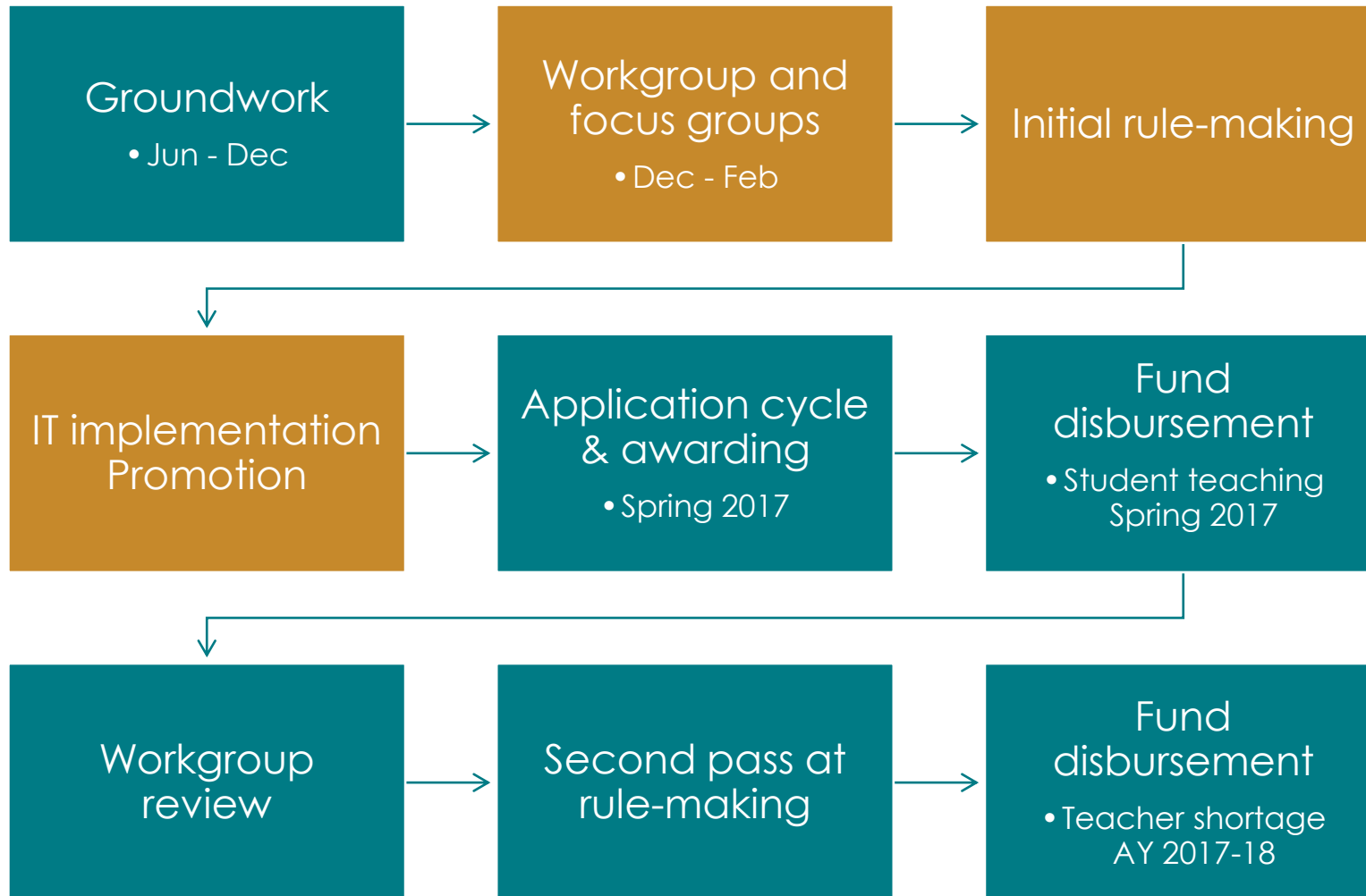


Priorities

- Recruiting individuals into the profession
- Providing support to students with financial need
- Addressing shortages in hard-to-fill subjects
- Addressing geographic shortages
- Increasing the diversity of the teacher workforce
- Strengthening connection between preparation and district hiring
- Promoting alternative routes
- Increasing retention of teachers



Work plan and timeline





Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program

Eligibility requirements

- Be enrolled in a PESB-approved teacher preparation program
- Demonstrate unmet financial need
- Express intention to fulfill the contractual obligations of the grant
- Have no existing service obligations
- Address an endorsement or geographic shortage area need



Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant Program

Potential awarding preferences

- From a traditionally underrepresented group
- Financial need
- First-generation college student
- Enrolled in an alternative route program
- Secured school district commitment to hire
- Additions:
 - Multilingual
 - First language other than English
 - Previous experience working with children or youth



Student Teaching Residency Grant Program

Eligibility requirements

- Enrolled in a PESB-approved teacher preparation program
- Completing a student teaching residency at a Title I public school in Washington
 - In progress sometime during February - June window for this first round
- Demonstrate financial need
 - Family income not to exceed 70% of Washington's Median Family Income, by family size



Student Teaching Residency Grant Program

Potential awarding preferences

- Financial need
- Duration of student teaching residency
- From a traditionally underrepresented group
- Addressing an endorsement shortage area need



Award amounts

- Maximum award amounts to be determined by WSAC
 - Needs to be “substantial” since service is required
- Individual student awards will vary based on unmet need
 - Student may decline award
 - Student may replace loan(s) with award
 - Renewal awards will not be guaranteed





Financial aid process

Grants will be awarded to selected applicants through partnership with college financial aid offices

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) will be required since “need based aid”
- College will need to certify eligibility (unmet need)
 - WSAC is working through technical financial aid details with financial aid administrators
- Disbursements will be sent by WSAC to college financial aid offices using established process



Launch

readyssetgrad.org/teachers

Student Teaching Residency Grant

- Launch: Feb. 1
- Priority deadline: Feb. 24

Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

- Launch: May 1
- Priority deadline: May 26



Continue the conversation



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