2014 Innovative Schools Designation Application Guide

Thank you for your interest in applying for Washington's Innovative School designation. This application requires:

- Specific information about your school and its innovative practices.
- Specific citations of research and best practices you use to inform your approach.
- Specific data that shows the effectiveness of your innovations on student academic, behavior and social success.
- Specific data that shows the effectiveness of your innovations on reducing the achievement gap.
- Information on the standards for innovation in your classrooms and teacher engagement and morale.
- Specific examples and evidence of family and community engagement.

Once you begin your application you may save and return to it as many times as you like. You must complete and submit your application no later than January 3, 2014.

Your completed application will be reviewed by the selection committee. Superintendent Dorn will announce the results in late February.

Using the online application

The Innovative Schools online application is designed to make it easier for more schools to apply for the designation.

How do I save and continue the application later?

You may save and continue your application later at any point once you have entered the required contact information on the following page.

- When you want to leave the form, just advance to the next page and click the "Save and Continue Later" button at the top of the page and type in your preferred email. Note: the form will only save up to the previous page.
- You will receive a unique edit link to your application via that email address.
- Be sure to use this link when you want to continue your application.

How do I navigate the survey?

You can navigate back and forth through the survey by using the "Back" and "Next" buttons at the bottom of the page.

How does the word count work?

The word count in this form is different than in Microsoft Word. When you cut and paste into the application, the word counts may not match exactly. You may have to edit your response in the form to conform to the application's word count maximums.

Why does the formatting look different than what I entered?

The form will convert your essay responses to a standard format to make it easier for reviewers to read. For example, the form will not allow indentations. If you want to create breaks between paragraphs, you must do this with a return.

The following is a detailed list of information you will be required to provide:

School Name _____

School Mailing Address _____

School City _____

School Zip _____

School Website _____

School district: _____

Educational Service District (ESD)
Don't know your ESD? *check out our interactive state map*.

( ) Northeast ESD 101

( ) ESD 105

( ) ESD 112

( ) ESD 113

( ) Olympic ESD 114

( ) Puget Sound ESD 121

( ) ESD 123

( ) North Central ESD 171

( ) Northwest ESD 189

Grade span _____

School Principal

School Principal Name: _____

School Principal Email: _____

School Principal Phone (with area code): _____

Lead Applicant

Lead Applicant Name: _____

Lead Applicant Title: _____

Lead Applicant Email: _____

Lead Applicant Phone (with area code): _____

About Your School

What year did you first begin using innovative practices? _____

Tell us about your school and what makes it innovative? Specifically describe:

- The overall theme of your school (STEM, Arts, etc.)

- Innovative practices in curriculum, teaching, testing and leadership.

- How you meet the social, emotional and academic needs of all students.

- How your school serves as a laboratory - testing new ideas and modeling for others.

(Maximum 300 words)

Cite the research about education innovation on which you've based your approach.

Cite the national best practices on which you've based your approach.

High Standards for Students

Briefly describe the goals you have for student academic, behavior and social success. (Maximum 100 words)

Can you show an increase in academic achievement as a result of a specific innovation?

( ) Yes

( ) No

If yes, please provide the following information:

What student population was affected? (grade span, demographic, etc.):
_____

How are you measuring their achievement? (MSP results, CBA, etc.):
_____

What was the baseline achievement?:
_____

What month/year was the baseline data collected?:
_____

What is the current achievement?: _____

What specific innovation did you use? (Maximum 100 words)

How have you applied what you learned from this success to increase other outcomes or achievement of other student populations? (Maximum 100 words)

Can you show a decrease in the achievement gap at your school as a result of a specific innovation?

( ) Yes

( ) No

If yes, please provide the following information:

What student population was affected? (include grade span and demographics):
_____

How are you measuring their achievement? (MSP results, CBA, etc.):
_____

What was the baseline achievement gap between this group and the control group (white students, non free/reduced lunch, etc.)?: _____

What month/year was the baseline data collected?:
_____

What is the current gap between the two populations?:
_____

What specific innovation did you use? (Maximum 100 words)

How have you applied what you learned from this success to increase other outcomes or achievement of other student populations? (Maximum 100 words)

Can you show an improvement in behavior or social outcomes at your school as a result of a specific innovation?

( ) Yes

( ) No

If yes, please provide the following information:

What student population was affected? (grade span, demographic, etc.):
_____

How are you measuring the improvement? (disciplinary referrals, attendance, etc.):
_____

What was the baseline data (number of referrals, attendance rate, etc.)?:
_____

What month/year was the baseline data collected?:
_____

What is the current data?: _____

What specific innovation did you use? (Maximum 100 words)

How have you applied what you learned from this success to improve the behavior or social success of other students? (Maximum 100 words)

What other indicators do you have that you are meeting your goals for student academic, behavior and social success? (Maximum 200 words)

High Standards for Teachers

What specific innovations are your teachers required to use in their classrooms? Please include curriculum, management strategies, etc. (Maximum 200 words)

What specific strategies do you use to maintain a high level of teacher morale and engagement? How do you measure teacher morale and engagement? (Maximum 200 words)

Family and Community Engagement

How are families, business and community groups involved in decision-making at your school? What innovations do you use to engage these groups? (Maximum 200 words)

Please upload up to three documents that show specifically how families are involved at high levels in the school community. For example: meeting minutes and agendas, evidence of attendance at professional development, evidence of reciprocal communication from families via newsletters or email, website analytics reports, etc. (This form accepts PDFs up to 2 MB each)

Please upload a letter of support for your school and its innovative approach from a business partner or community organization. (This form accepts PDFs up to 2 MB)