



FY26 K-3 STEM and ELA Integration Pilot Grant Technical Assistance FAQ

The following questions come from the virtual technical assistance meeting held on March 23, 2026, from 11am-12pm.

All applicants are encouraged to read the full [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for complete details, as it contains very specific information aligned with [Senate Bill 460](#) Sections 33.93 and 33.95.

1. **Can a few rural districts join and submit as a consortium?** The NOFO answers this question on page 3:

Eligible Applicants

This competitive grant opportunity is open to public schools or groups of public schools currently operating within the State of Nevada that serve pupils in kindergarten and grades 1, 2 and 3. Whether applying individually or as a group, all applicants must demonstrate the capacity to implement curricula that utilize scientifically based reading research and innovative instructional strategies as defined in Section 33.93 of SB 460 (2025).

2. **How will the data gathered from this grant inform what Nevada adopts in the future?** Nevada Department of Education (NDE) will collect reading data, such as universal screeners, to measure literacy growth. This data, along with informal anecdotal information, will be presented to the State Board of Education. Based on the pilot's success, the Board could use this information to create a model ELA curriculum that includes STEM integration in K-3 reading.
3. **What is the likelihood of this program continuing into the 2027-2028 school year?** While the pilot program can legally be extended for an additional year based on literacy data, there is currently no specific money attached to that extension. Right now, the grant is funded with \$2 million that ends in Fiscal Year 2027. Any future funding would depend on the legislature during the next legislative session.
4. **Do we have to use a specific vetted curriculum, or can we piece together supplemental materials?** The bill does not strictly mandate a pre-approved vendor list; rather, it specifies that applicants must use "research-based instructional materials" and integrate STEM with the science of reading. If your chosen materials can be justified as supporting the five pillars of reading, you may purpose them to best fit your students.
5. **What is an example of an innovative project?** An innovative project is one that challenges the standard practices of your specific learning community and immerses students in project-based or problem-based learning while cultivating language skills. Innovation must be a sustainable practice throughout the year, not just a one-time event.

6. **Are we allowed to implement this grant in just one grade level at our school?** Yes. Implementing the program in just one grade level is acceptable, as long as it is within Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade.
7. **Can grant funds be used to pay teachers for their planning time to build the curriculum?** Yes. You can use the funds to compensate teachers for planning time or professional development, provided the work is focused on what SB 460 requires: research-based teaching strategies, quality curricula for a program that integrates STEM into literacy instruction, and innovation.

Added 03/30/2026

8. **What is the preferred budget structure for a group of schools?** The preferred budget structure depends on the consistency of the proposed projects across the group of schools.
 - a. **Uniform Projects:** If all schools are implementing the exact same Scope of Work, a single budget under one administrative project is sufficient. Please use the template provided in the application to detail the allocations for each school within the budget narrative.
 - b. **Diverse Projects:** If the proposed projects differ by school or group of schools, we recommend submitting separate applications for each distinct Scope of Work. This allows for a clearer evaluation of each project's specific merits and increases the likelihood of at least one Scope of Work being approved independently.
9. **In the group application template, would it be acceptable to temporarily identify schools as School 1, School 2, etc.?**
 - a. **For the Application:** Identifying schools as School 1, School 2, etc., is temporarily acceptable for the initial proposal.
 - b. **Upon Award:** If funded, the specific school names must be identified and updated in ePage by the end of April. Because this is a pilot program, NDE requires direct engagement with the participating sites throughout the duration of the project.
10. **Can required artifacts be uploaded as PDF documents, while other materials are submitted in Excel and Word formats?**
 - a. **Templates:** Please submit all required application templates in their original formats (Excel or Word).
 - b. **Narratives & Supporting Docs:** Word documents are often best uploaded as PDFs to ensure formatting remains intact.
 - c. **Data Sheets:** We strongly recommend keeping Excel files in their original Excel format rather than converting them to PDF to allow for easier data review.
11. **Are indirect costs allowed under this grant?** No, indirect costs are not allowable for this grant. As this pilot is funded via state dollars, indirect costs cannot be included within the subawards.