

Rhode Island Educator Preparation Design Challenge

RI Department of Education & RI Office of Innovation

Background: For years, Rhode Island’s PK-12 school system has been deliberately and steadily moving to be more student-centered, personalized, and technology-enabled in order to best prepare our students for today’s rapidly changing world. As these schools have begun shifting toward this new era of learning, it has become increasingly important that they partner with our state educator preparation programs.

This Ed Prep Design Challenge, a partnership between the RI Department of Education, RI Office of Innovation, 18 exemplary PK-12 educators, and our RI educator preparation programs, seizes a unique opportunity to blend best practice in K-12 with design thinking and educator preparation program expertise.

It is a chance for educator preparation programs, in partnership with PK-12 educators, to design—and then pilot—efforts to support educator candidates in being ready to teach in personalized, student-centered environments. It will allow prep programs to galvanize and accelerate innovations to ensure that their completers are ready for day 1 in a twenty-first century school and classroom.

The specifics: We’re asking educator preparation programs with an idea for how to improve their own programming to join in the challenge. These ideas could focus on better use of data and/or technology, better recruitment and/or support of diverse candidates, stronger clinical preparation, more direct connection to twenty-first century pedagogies, or anything else your program is working on already to innovate and support personalized learning.

The challenge is meant to be competitive: We’ll award two \$15,000 grants which can be used at the discretion of the winning teams/institutions to implement their designed pilot solution. Funding will come through the RI Office of Innovation and should be used to successfully implement the design hack, whether that be for staffing, technology, consultants, convenings, or other. Funds can be used during the 2018-19 school year and need to be expended by May 2019.

To support programs in developing their designs, RIDE and the RI Office of Innovation will host a series of three design workshops, connecting prep programs to PK-12 educators who will support them in refining their focus problems and ideas. Program teams can attend as many workshops as they’re able to build their plans; the workshops are completely voluntary and will only help to enhance final plans from applicants.

Application process:

Applicant teams may submit their applications either as a Word document (no more than five pages) or a PowerPoint deck (no more than twenty slides) by July 31, 2018 at 5:00PM. The applications should cover:

- *The general overview of the design:* What it is, why it matters for the program and its educator candidates, and who is engaged in doing the work.
- *The scalability of the design:* How you’ll measure success and how it will be incorporated into broader program work if successful—including how the work could be sustained post-grant period (if continued funding is needed).
- *Why this is the right design:* The research backing and viability of the design, as well as the alignment of it to the RI Standards for Educator Preparation
- *How and when funds will be used to support the implementation of the design*



RIDE Rhode Island
Department
of Education



Finalists will be notified of their status by August 7, 2018 and will be asked to prepare a five-minute oral pitch presentation for an expert judge panel and then be prepared to answer questions on their ideas. This Pitch Fest will take place on August 15, 2018 from 10AM to 12PM. Winners will be chosen and announced at the end of the Pitch Fest.

Timeline:

Design Planning Meeting 1

Problem Identification and Preliminary Prototyping

6/14/2018

4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Exeter-West Greenwich High School
High School Library
930 Nooseneck Hill Road
West Greenwich, RI 02817

Design Planning Meeting 2

If missed Meeting 1: Problem Identification and Preliminary Prototyping

If attended Meeting 1: Refining and Testing Solutions

6/28/2018

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Swearer Center
339 Eddy Street
Providence, RI 02903

Design/Hack Planning Meeting 3

If missed Meetings 1 and 2: Problem Identification and Preliminary Prototyping

If missed Meeting 1 or 2: Refining and Testing Solutions
If attended Meeting 1 and 2: One-on-one support

7/10/2018

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Tech Collective
188 Valley Street
Providence, RI 02909

Ed Prep Designs Due

7/31/2018

Submitted electronically by end of day

Design Finalists Notified

8/7/2018

Finalists notified via email

Final Pitch Fest Panel and Selection

8/15/2018

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CCRI Knight Campus
4th Floor Board Room
400 East Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886



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