

California Education Learning Lab

Program Fact Sheet

What is the California Education Learning Lab?

[Assembly Bill 1809 \(Chapter 33, Statutes of 2018\)](#) established the California Education Learning Lab (“Learning Lab”) as a competitive grantmaking program for intersegmental faculty teams to incorporate principals of learning science and adaptive learning technology into their curriculum and pedagogy, with the express purpose of increasing learning outcomes and closing equity and achievement gaps in STEM and other disciplines. Initial calls for proposals will focus on lower-division online and hybrid courses in STEM. Beginning in 2020, other disciplines may compete for funds and funds may be used to support professional development and a curated resource library.

What are intersegmental faculty teams?

“Intersegmental faculty teams” refers to a team of faculty from more than one segment of public higher education, e.g., University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges.

What is considered STEM?

STEM refers to the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. While not all education researchers or education agencies classify STEM disciplines in the same way, we generally follow the [National Center for Education Statistics \(NCES\)](#) and the [Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange \(CSRDE\)](#). The Learning Lab identifies the following as STEM fields: mathematics, the physical sciences, biological and life sciences, engineering and engineering technologies, and computer and information sciences.

Who runs the Learning Lab?

The Learning Lab is housed in the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR). The Learning Lab has three staff (see staff bios) and a distinguished advisory committee with expertise in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, learning sciences and adaptive learning and a strong commitment to equity in science education and higher education. (See advisory committee bios.)

How is the Learning Lab funded?

The Learning Lab has an annual budget of \$10 million, which comes from state general funds. Funding will go out through competitive grants and support activities that enhance teaching and learning (less than five percent will go toward the administration of the program).

Who is eligible to apply for a Learning Lab grant?

This will vary according to the terms of the specific Request for Proposals. Generally, individuals who have a permanent faculty appointment at a California community college, a California State University campus or a University of California campus, AND can demonstrate institutional support for their projects may apply as a co-principal investigator if the call for proposals includes their discipline.

What if I'm not a faculty member from UC, CSU or community colleges?

You can still be part of the faculty team that applies for a Learning Lab grant, just not a co-principal investigator.

What else does the Learning Lab do?

In addition to administering the faculty grant program, Learning Lab will work to build professional networks, support professional development and faculty learning communities, publish research briefs, curate a resource library, and connect with students. We want to work with all who are striving to improve teaching and learning and achieve greater equity in higher education.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please contact learninglab@opr.ca.gov with questions or comments. We would like to hear from you!