



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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New Regional Educator Network Opportunity to Open June 1, 2019

*The Educator Advancement Council will be issuing request for proposals for sponsoring organizations to lead a regional approach for teacher and educator learning and supports.*

Salem, OR – The Educator Advancement Council (EAC) announced the timeline launch to build on prior state funded pilots, expand statewide access and significantly strengthen how Oregon supports public school teachers and administrators with high-quality professional learning opportunities throughout their careers.

The Oregon Department of Education will release a Request for Proposal by June 1, 2019 seeking regional organizations and consortiums interested in serving as a Sponsoring Organization/Fiscal Agent for a Regional Education Network (REN) starting in the Fall of 2019.

The RENs will serve as the primary sponsor organization, convening a collaboration of local educators, community members and stakeholders committed to supporting diversity, professional learning and experiences of the educator workforce at each stage of their careers by evaluating and then tailoring systems to meet the needs of local educators within their region.

“Our goal is that each regional education network will include strong representation from local educators whose voice must be part of this effort if we are truly going to effectively reshape the systems that support our teachers,” said Hilda Rosselli, EAC Interim Executive Director. “This is a new approach and an exciting opportunity to build on what we know works for teacher leadership but in a way that recognizes the needs of our students vary from region to region, which means how we support and provide continuous education to our teachers must also be flexible, adaptive and responsive to those needs.”

Ten (10) regions are envisioned across the state and each REN will be authorized by ODE to coordinate resources supporting school districts in developing and testing changes to their systems designed to support educators based on local data and criteria.

The applicants to serve as a Regional Education Network could be led by an existing organization or school district with other partners, or an entirely new consortium could be formed to apply. Eligible entities may include school districts, education service districts, nonprofit and community-based

organizations, philanthropy, postsecondary institutions of education, a federally recognized Tribe of Oregon, or a consortium or combination of identified entities including a partner eligible to serve as a Fiscal Agent (school district, education service district or postsecondary institution of education).

“We know the end of the school year is rapidly approaching but we wanted to provide information about this opportunity so communities can begin organizing and identifying how to utilize this new approach to teacher support and continuing education,” said Michele Oakes, Chair of the EAC. “We cannot stress enough the need for teachers to not only be a part of this effort but to help drive it because they know firsthand the professional support needed to continue strengthening teaching and learning.”

When the RFP is released on June 1st, official documents will be available through the [Oregon Procurement Information Network \(ORPIN\)](#). Organizations must register on ORPIN to participate. ORPIN registration is available at no charge. To learn more and register, go to the [ORPIN Supplier Guide to Registration](#). The EAC will also sponsor a webinar on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM describing the RFP background and process in more detail. [Click here to register.](#)

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