



**State Support  
Team**

## **Request for Proposal (RFP):**

### ***The Project Approach: Embedding Common Core Standards into Early Childhood Practices***

- Name of Award:** The Project Approach and Common Core Standards
- Submission Date:** By November 27, 2013
- Funding Source:** Ohio Department of Education, Office of Exceptional Children (OEC), Part B IDEA funds provided to the State Support Team Region 1
- Eligibility:** Teams of preschool, kindergarten and/or primary level educators from school districts, child care centers and Head Start programs served by the State Support Team Region 1 are eligible to apply. All RFP recipients must adhere to the policies established by the State Support Team Region 1.

**Basic Overview of  
Project Approach:**

The Project Approach offers teachers ways to build upon the natural curiosity of children to learn through in-depth investigation of a topic or project. This approach affords children opportunities for: inquiry; higher order thinking; communication; problem solving; perseverance; collaboration; critical thinking and discovery; allowing them to construct real meaning that extends well beyond the classroom. This approach provides teachers a curricular approach that naturally aligns to all of the common core standards and early learning and developmental standards, embeds STEM, and provides the context for using technology in meaningful ways in the classroom.

**Overview of Project:**

This proposal seeks to build sustainability of project and inquiry-based learning in programs and schools served by the State Support Team. The request for proposal is for **returning teachers**, meaning those who have received a previous grant award for project work, and **new teachers** interested in engaging in the study and implementation of the Project Approach and finding a curricular tool to align to the common core standards. All teams will have individualized, embedded classroom support through monthly site visits by Stacey Pistorova.

**Returning teachers:**

- Work in collaboration and help mentor new teachers
- Provide resources and support to online website
- Attend and help facilitate a culminating professional development meeting at the end of April

- Engage in online community on a monthly basis
- Provide documentation of 2 projects from the academic year 2013-2014
- Attend culminating professional development meeting at the end of April

**New teachers:**

- Attend an introductory professional development meeting January 24, 2104 on the Project Approach and curriculum alignment
- Engage in the online community on a monthly basis
- Submit documentation of first project online for feedback and additional support
- Complete a minimum of 2 projects within the course of the year
- Engage monthly online working in collaboration will meet face-to-face a minimum of two times during the academic year in addition to monthly, online meetings and discussion.
- Attend culminating professional development meeting at the end of April

**Administrators:**

- Administrators seeking to further support teachers in project-based work
- Attend introductory and culminating professional development meeting
- Complete an online module on the Project Approach

**All participants:**

- Will complete a pre- and post-survey
- provide documentation of project for SST project archive (materials may be used in conference presentations to further understanding of project-based approaches)

Participants will be provided resources, lesson planning forms, documentation materials and one on one mentoring to further support curriculum alignment and teachers' ability to implement projects into their ongoing curriculum.

**Grant Award:**

Up to \$1,500 per grant will be awarded. All funds must be expended by May 30, 2014. Your program will be given the opportunity to work with Stacey Pistorova to engage in an in-depth study of the Project Approach with support from early childhood staff from the State Support Team.

Teams will find support for:

- *integrating projects into your ongoing curriculum*
- *alignment to common core standards*
- *online collaboration*
- *documentation of projects and alignment to common core standards*
- *embedding technology into practice*
- *onsite, classroom embedded support and technical assistance*
- *continuing education and professionalism in the field of early childhood education*

## **Requirements and Expectations:**

### Returning Teams:

- monthly meetings with Stacey Pistorova
- monthly, online collaboration with new teams
- face-to-face meetings, minimum two times in academic year, with new teams
- submission of documentation, one complete project during the 2013-2014 academic year and additional materials to the online, professional development support through the SST 1

### New Teams:

- monthly meetings with Stacey Pistorova
- monthly, online collaboration with new teams
- face-to-face meetings, minimum two times in academic year, with returning teams
- submission of one complete project to the online, professional development support through the SST 1

### Administrators:

- complete online tutorial found through the SST 1 web page
- monthly walkthroughs of each participating team

## **Steps to Submission of the Proposal:**

1. Complete Attachment A: Cover Page
2. Complete Attachment B: Assurances
3. Complete the narrative (see *Guidelines for Proposal Narrative*)
4. Complete Attachment C: Budget Worksheet (see *Guidelines for Use of Funds*)
5. Submit the proposal to:

## **Guidelines for Proposal Narrative:**

All proposals should include the following:

- A listing of who will be participating in the Project Approach study, including team members and the targeted student population (***must include*** students with disabilities, at-risk learners, and students without disabilities).
- Identify whether Project Approach will be implemented at the building or program level.
- Based on the Project Approach awareness training, provide a description of how the program or building will support implementation of Project Approach at the classroom level and how teacher collaboration in the design and implementation will be supported.
- Describe the intended outcomes for the Project Approach and the collaboration across teachers at the preschool, kindergarten, and/or primary levels.
- Describe how the funds requested will enhance implementation of the Project Approach

## **Guidelines for Use of Funds:**

Funds **may be** used for:

- substitute teacher costs
- materials to support development/implementation of a project
- stipends at district/agency negotiated rate for onsite technical assistance outside of negotiated contract hours
- other

Funds **may not be** used for:

- equipment

- food/beverages

**Reimbursement**

**Process:**

Payment will be issued to districts/agencies based on submitted invoices along with appropriate receipts/contracts. Information will be sent to the recipient Treasurer's office or designated business office outlining specific procedures.

**Award Date:**

Beginning December 6, 2013.

**Award Period:**

December 6, 2013 through June 2014. (There may be an opportunity for continuation of Project work in 2014-2015 pending funding.)

**Assurances:**

See Attachment B. All proposals must be signed by both the applicant and the Superintendent/Preschool Supervisor/Program Director or his/her designee within the district/program where the Project Approach Study is to occur.

Completed applications may be sent via mail, fax, or email:

Address: State Support Team Region 1  
2275 Collingwood Blvd.  
Toledo, Ohio 43620  
Attention: Project Approach

Phone: 419-720-8999 or 1-800-346-8495

Fax: 419-720-8998

Email: [esclew\\_ms@sstr1.org](mailto:esclew_ms@sstr1.org)

**Questions and Support  
for Development**

**of the Proposal:**

Questions may be directed to , Stacey Pistorova ([spistorova@gmail.com](mailto:spistorova@gmail.com) or 567-868-2692).

**The Project Approach Study  
Proposal Cover Page**

Applicant Contact Information

Name:

Phone Number:

Email:

District/Building/Program:

Address:

Phone Number:

Building (if different from above):

Address:

Phone Number:

Early Childhood Program Name (if different from above):

Address:

Phone Number:

**Project Team Members**

NAME	EMAIL

ASSURANCES

The SST agrees to:

1. Provide the services of Stacey Pistorova, Project Approach presenter and consultant, and SST Consultants in support of the Project Approach.
2. Onsite coaching and technical assistance
3. Handouts and materials for the sessions
4. Reimbursement of up to \$1500.00 per RFP as outlined in the guidelines for use of funds.

Agency/District/ESC and Participating Educators agree to:

1. Funds will be expended per the agreed upon budget plan. Changes to the budget must be approved prior to expenditure. All funds will be expended by May 30, 2014 with appropriate receipts and invoices submitted to the SSTR1 fiscal agent.
2. Team members will be expected to implement Project Approach in their building, program or district. This will require collaborative team meetings centered on Project Approach implementation. Teams must consist of preschool and/or kindergarten/early elementary educators
3. Team members are expected to have release time to meet Stacey Pistorova and/or SST consultants for follow-up sessions and all technical assistance onsite visits.
4. Team members are expected to share student work and lesson plans during the follow-up sessions.
5. Representatives from teams will present their Project work and outcomes at the final follow-up meeting in May 2014
6. Teams will complete an evaluation of the Project Approach trainings, coaching, and technical assistance in June 2014.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Superintendent/Designee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

Signature of Preschool/Child Care/Head Start Program Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Budget Worksheet

District/Agency Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Overseeing the budget \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED:** *(not to exceed \$1500.00)*

**Please provide:**

- a listing of the types of supplies/materials needed with the amount
- a list of contracted services (such as substitute costs, stipends at the negotiated rate, ...) with the amount

Supplies/Materials to Support Project Development/Implementation/Monitoring:	Amount
Contracted Services <i>(teacher substitutes, stipends, other):</i>	Amount
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	

***Changes to the budget must be approved prior to expenditure. All funds will be expended by May 30, 2014 with appropriate receipts and invoices submitted by the Treasurer/fiscal office to the SST fiscal agent.***