

Apportionment Re-hosting Project - Phase 3, JJ

Agency: 350 Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Budget Period: 2009-11

Recommendation Summary Text (Short Description):

Superintendent Dorn requests continued Legislative support of the OSPI Apportionment Re-hosting Project to reach 100% conversion of systems operated on the antiquated COBOL/VAX platforms. This request is necessary to create modern systems that can meet the increasing demand from the legislature for expanded school district financial data for current and proposed programs, internal system alignment of the budgeting and expenditure processes and federal and state accountability. It is also critical to ensure our decades-old COBOL/VAX systems are fully phased out.

In FY 2009, OSPI underspent and lapsed resources by \$250,000 due to delayed contracts on the project. However, the work associated with these delays is required in FY 2010 to reach 100% conversion. Superintendent Dorn requests a total of \$250,000 to complete the Apportionment Re-hosting Project.

Fiscal Detail

Operating Expenditures		FY 2011	FY 2011	Total
Apportionment Re-hosting Project	001-01	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
Total Cost		\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000

Staffing	FY 2010	FY 2011	Annual Avg.
Total FTEs Requested	0	0	0

Package Description

Background

Phase Two of the Apportionment Re-hosting Project completed conversion of the apportionment and student enrollments systems. Phase Three, currently underway, completes the grant distribution and remaining financial system modules.

Current Situation

The re-hosting project has completed 66% of the replatforming activities. The current Phase Three project will bring that percentage to completion.

Proposed Solution

Superintendent Dorn requests \$250,000 to complete Phase Three, the conversion of the remaining programs on the VAX including needed system enhancement and of several historical databases to a more modern database platform.

To ensure a quality product, OSPI contracted with vendors on a "deliverable" basis, rather than on a time and materials basis. Doing this made certain costs were contained and OSPI only paid for systems that worked correctly. At the end of FY09 some work scheduled to be completed and paid for in FY09 was not yet completed.

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Instead of paying for only a partially completed project OSPI delayed payment until FY10 to ensure work was completed correctly. This resulted in \$67,000 of under spending in the Apportionment Re-host Project, which we are requesting to be carried over into FY10.

The last system to be completed on this project is the Grant Payment system. OSPI explored all options in trying to determine the most cost effective way to complete this part of the project. This included issuing a Request of Proposals for both “off the shelf” software, as well as a “custom build” solution. These proposals were slightly above our original cost projection to complete this project. \$183,000 of this request is for an updated cost projection for rehosting the Grant Payment system.

Contact person

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Narrative Justification and Impact Statement

What specific performance outcomes does the agency expect?

The re-hosted systems will provide capability to address the expanded collection of data from school districts that is currently being discussed by the Legislature and the Quality Education Council. In addition, this re-host will reduce the current uncertainty of being able to access programmers that are knowledgeable and capable of supporting these crucial systems. This will reduce risk of a systemic failure in distribution of state funding to schools through the apportionment or grants funding streams.

Performance Measure Detail

This project is actively overseen by an executive committee of key OSPI staff. A project timeline has been established for the life of the project and shared along with other documentation with the Department of Information Systems. Progress throughout the project will be tracked and monitored by staff and the executive committee against this timeline. Deviations, as they occur, will be evaluated on a timely basis. The planned timeline and expected work will be adjusted as necessary to meet the critical business conversion points that are inherent in the systems.

Is this decision package essential to implement a strategy identified in the agency’s strategic plan?

This decision package supports Goal 4: K-12 Funding System that Promotes Student Success. To implement any changes to the current funding system successfully, the Apportionment and Grants system needs to be fully converted.

Reason for change:

Accurate and timely financial calculations and transactions involving 40% of the state general fund expenditures will be supported and ensured through this request continuation and extension of the Apportionment Re-hosting project.

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Does this decision package provide essential support to one of the Governor's priorities?

This decision package supports the Governor's priority of strengthening government's ability to achieve results efficiently and effectively.

Does this decision package make key contributions to statewide results? Would it rate as a high priority in the Priorities of Government process?

This decision package creates tools and resources to execute government functions, a purchase strategy to achieve results efficiently and effectively.

What are the other important connections or impacts related to this proposal?

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) through its School Apportionment and Financial Services section is responsible for school district K-12 payments for state and federal funding and is sole collection point for the annual school district financial reports and budgets. OSPI is in the process of a major conversion project for the supporting systems for staffing information and the School District budgeting and financial reporting. This effort has been funded by the legislature as "OSPI Apportionment Rehosting Project" in 2005, 2008 and 2010. The remaining efforts will encompass implementation and training of systems that have been rewritten as well as undertaking conversion of several supporting systems still operating on the antiquated VAX platform.

Impact on Clients and Services

Much of the data manipulation, EXCEL files and separate spreadsheets used by School Apportionment and Financial Services section staff to meet the pressing demand for data, will be eliminated. The system will provide greater security, a higher quality of data and enhanced reporting without the need for individuals to pull unique reports from the system for each request.

The completed system will provide quick access to accurate data that policymakers, state and local school administrators, teachers and parents use in making sound, data-driven educational decisions.

Impact on Other State Programs

What alternatives were explored by the agency, and why was this alternative chosen?

There are no proposed alternatives as this is the continuation and completion of work that has been funded previously.

What are the consequences of not funding this package?

OSPI is financially funding duplicate software platforms for the completed software modules and the modules not yet completed hosted on the VAX. Not completing this work only extends the length and dollar support required by OSPI to run two systems; an inefficient use of funds. OSPI must devote all available funds to supporting the new platform in order for its successful operation.

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Expenditure Calculations and Assumptions:

These costs represent: 1) the amount OSPI under spent on contracts in FY09, and 2) updated costs for completing the grant system portion of the project.

Object Detail

		FY 2010	FY 2011	Total
A	Salary and Wages	\$0	\$0	\$0
B	Employee Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0
C	Contracts	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
E	Goods/Services	\$0	\$0	\$0
G	Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
J	Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
N	Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Interagency Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Objects		\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000

Expenditures & FTEs by Program

Activity Inventory Item	Prog	Staffing			Operating Expenditures		
		FY 2010	FY 2011	Avg	FY 2010	FY 2011	Total
A002 Administration	021				\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
Total Activities					\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000

Six-Year Expenditure Estimates

Fund	09-11 Total	11-13 Total	13-15 Total
General Fund – State	\$250,000	\$0	\$0
Expenditure Total	\$250,000	\$0	\$0
FTEs			

Distinction between one-time and ongoing costs:

All of the costs are one-time for contract work.

Budget impacts in future biennia:

None known.