



Professional Development for Educators Act

In order for the United States to compete in today's global economy, we must have a highly skilled workforce ready to enter the job market. To prepare our students, we need the best possible teachers in our classrooms. As educators enter the teaching profession they come equipped with a wide variety of skill sets and areas of expertise. Over the course of their careers, the needs of our students and the methods by which our teachers do their jobs change dramatically. Well designed and implemented professional development for our teachers and principals is key to keeping educators on the cutting edge of teaching excellence. This bill provides needed resources to states and school districts to make quality professional development available and easily accessible to teachers and principals.

How is funding used?

- ❖ Evaluating current professional development opportunities for teachers and principals;
- ❖ Creating a statewide searchable registry of quality professional development offerings;
- ❖ Creating new professional development opportunities with an emphasis on career technical education and science, technology, engineering, and STEM education;
- ❖ Extending leadership opportunities to teachers;
- ❖ Providing updated information on changes in curriculum;
- ❖ Creating district-wide and school-based quality professional development plans for teachers and principals; and
- ❖ Creating regional counseling positions around the state to gather and evaluate professional development offerings, organize training opportunities and act as a liaison between districts and the State Educational Agency.

Applicants

- ❖ States will receive formula funding administered by the Department of Education to evaluate and organize comprehensive professional development for principals and teachers around the state.
- ❖ School districts are eligible for sub-grants to evaluate, create and distribute quality professional development to educators and principals.
- ❖ Partnerships with school districts may include economic development agencies, statewide industry organizations, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations and institutes of higher education, and other private or public organizations that can demonstrate expertise in the creation and implementation of professional development opportunities for educators.