
Georgia's Innovation Fund

Governor's Office of Student Achievement

Georgia Charter Schools Association Conference

February 4, 2016

Presentation Outline

- About the Innovation Fund
- Funding Opportunities
- The Innovation Fund and Charter Schools
- Examples of Funded Charter School Grants
- Innovation in Teaching Competition
- Questions?

About the Innovation Fund

- The Innovation Fund invests in innovative education programs aligned with the Innovation Fund's priority areas
- Began as part of Georgia's Race to the Top (RT3) plan
- Began receiving state funding in Fiscal Year 2015
- Since 2011, GOSA has invested:
 - **\$27,233,758.36** in
 - **54 grants** to
 - **39** LEAs, nonprofit organizations, charter schools, and institutions of higher education

Innovation Fund Priority Areas

- Applied Learning with a Focus on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Education
- Birth to Age Eight Language and Literacy Development
- Development and Replication of Blended Learning School Models
- Teacher and Leader Development for High-Need Schools



Grant Opportunities

Planning Grant (\$10,000): for organizations seeking to plan a program related to one or more of the Innovation Fund priority areas,

Implementation Grant (\$200,000 - \$700,000) for organizations seeking to implement a new innovative program focused on one or more of the Innovation Fund priority areas, and

Scaling Grant (\$200,000 - \$700,000) for organizations wishing to expand or replicate an existing successful program focused on one or more of the Innovation Fund priority areas.

FY 17 Funding Cycle

Spring	Grant Opportunities and Guidelines Released
June 3, 2016	Grant Technical Assistance Day, Atlanta, GA*
Early June	Application Opens
Late August	Grant Applications Due
Mid-September	Interviews with the Highest-Scoring Implementation and Scaling Grant Applications
Late September	Grant Awards Announced

- GOSA announces the grant details on our [website](#), in [GOSA Monthly Updates](#), and through emails to superintendents and RESA Directors

The Innovation Fund & Charter Schools

- Since Race to the Top, GOSA has awarded:
 - 11% (n=6) of grants to charter schools, and
 - 7% (n=4) to charter systems.



Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School New Teacher Residency Project

Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$918,000 Race to the Top Grant aligned with the teacher induction priority area
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mentor and support prospective and early-career teachers through a three-year gradual release residency program (student teaching, co-teaching, lead teaching)
What They Did	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partnered with Georgia State University to recruit and select residents for the program• Established a comprehensive support network, including mentor teachers, co-teachers, a program director, and Critical Friends Group (CFG) coaches, to support teacher residents
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Served 32 residents over the course of the grant• Over 45 veteran educators supported teacher residents• 92% of surveyed 2014 participants indicated they wanted to continue teaching after the program• Received an I3 grant from the US Dept. of Ed to expand the program to schools in the Maynard-Jackson cluster

Bishop Hall Charter School

Blended Learning Model for At Risk Students

Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$958,489.00 implementation grant aligned with the blended learning priority area
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To implement an enriched virtual blended learning model for at risk and nontraditional students at Thomas County’s Bishop Hall Charter High School
What They Have Done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained teachers through several workshops and conferences • Integrated digital systems and content (Overdrive, Desire 2 Learn, Georgia Virtual School courses, Softchalk) • Customized student schedules
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of students agree or strongly agree that flexible learning environment allows them to be a better student • 93% of students agree or strongly agree that they plan to graduate from high school

Innovation in Teaching Competition

The Innovation in Teaching Competition has two main goals:

1. To recognize and reward Georgia's most innovative teachers, and
2. To make videos of these teachers, along with their unit plans and supplementary materials, available to other teachers on GeorgiaStandards.org and [iTunesU](https://itunes.apple.com/us/artist/innovation-in-teaching-competition/id1000000000).

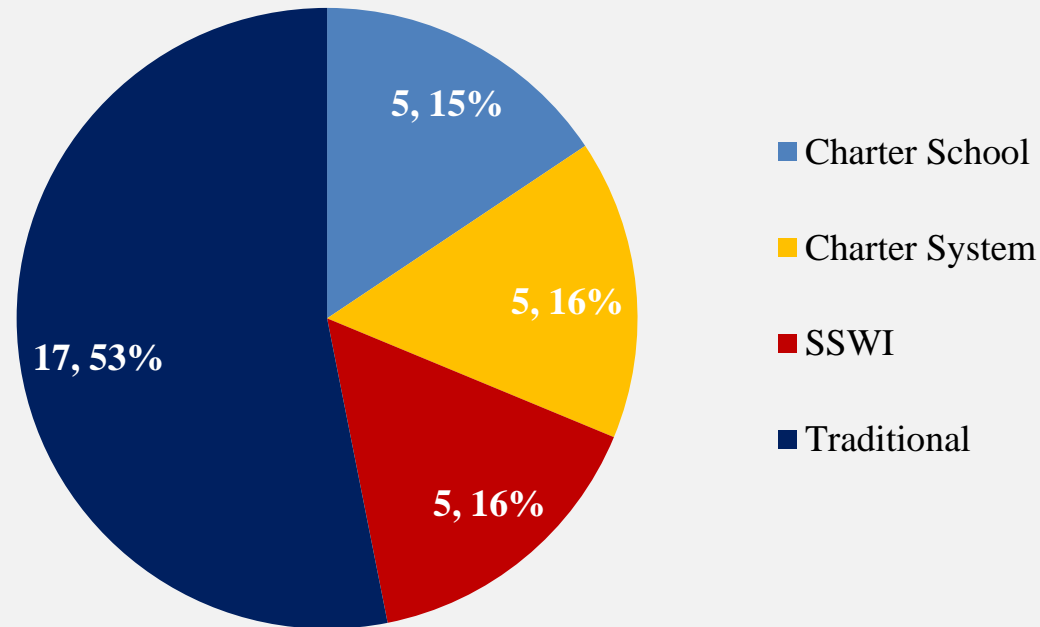
The Innovation in Teaching Competition

- Since RT3, GOSA has selected **32 winning educators**
- Provided **\$224,000** directly to Georgia's teachers and schools
- 25 sets of videos and unit plans are now available on [Georgia Standards.org](http://GeorgiaStandards.org) and iTunes U
- Resources will be posted on a rolling basis this school year



The Innovation in Teaching Competition & Charter Schools

**Innovation in Teaching Competition Winners
by School/System Type**



Innovation Fund Impact



[Innovation Fund Video](#)



Want to Learn More?

[2015 Innovation Fund Annual Report](#)

[Georgia's Innovation Fund:
Profiles of Innovation Fund Race to the Top Grantees](#)

[Race to the Top Innovation Fund Report](#)

[Social Return on Investment Report](#)



Pop Quiz!

- **What are the Innovation Fund priority areas?**
 - Applied Learning with a Focus on STEAM, Blended Learning, Birth to Age Eight Language and Literacy, and Teacher and Leader Development for High Need Schools
- **What types of grants are available through the Innovation Fund?**
 - Planning, Implementation, and Scaling
- **How can I learn more about the Innovation Fund grant opportunities?**
 - Attend the Technical Assistance Day, Sign Up to Receive More Information

Questions?



GOSA Contact Information

Dr. Cayanna Good

Deputy Director of Innovations & Academic Strategy

cgood@georgia.gov

404.463.1504

Rebecca Ellis

Program Manager, Innovation Fund

rellis@georgia.gov

404.596.3651

