NEA GPS Fund Grants advance NEA’s goal of great public schools for every student. Established in 2013 by the NEA Representative Assembly, they enable State and Local Affiliates to develop, implement, and lead with an agenda that engages members by emphasizing student-centered success and well-being through union-led efforts.

Go [here](#) for more about the NEA GPS Fund Program, including the Planning Grant.

The goals of the NEA GPS Fund are:

- To generate and develop innovative ideas designed to promote sound practice;
- To capture key learnings that promote student success;
- To develop and deliver supports by members for members that promote professional excellence;
- To establish new organizational partnerships toward improving professional practice and aligning it with organizational priorities; and
- To cultivate sustainable programs to be reproduced and amplified by other Affiliates to make meaningful change in public education for educators and students.

Go [here](#) for more about the Grant application process and timeline.

Click [here](#) to download a DOCX listing recorded grant writing webinars.

---

**167**

TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED TO DATE

**89**

NUMBER OF STATE AND LOCAL AFFILIATES THAT HAVE RECEIVED A GRANT

**$50.6 million**

TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED TO DATE

Go [here](#) for more about previously awarded GPS Fund Grants, with detail shown by state.

For questions, please email GPSFund-PF@nea.org
NEW GRANTS AWARDED IN 2020-21

Broward Teachers Union (FL)
Road to Educational Equality: A Social Justice and Early Career Academy
To increase social justice awareness for education professionals, BTU is providing professional development (PD) that speaks specifically to social justice initiatives such as Courageous Conversations, Beyond Diversity, and Cultural Competence. The NEA GPS Fund grant will support mentoring opportunities for early career educators and provide a direct path for ESPs to continue their professional growth.

Florida Education Association
Equity in Education through Union-led PD
In partnership with Local and State (Mississippi, Georgia, and Tennessee) Affiliates, FEA will apply NEA GPS Funds to early career educators and to developing all educators’ skills and success in teaching students of color. PD Coordinators and Contact Persons will attend a virtual convention to establish a foundational group of PD-minded unionists who will serve as models and mentors.

Matanuska Susitna Education Association (AK)
Providing Equity, Equality, and Social Justice across Cultures in Alaska
MSEA will use the NEA GPS Fund grant to fund a mentoring program that will increase retention of new, early career educators by 20% per year. Over three years, mentorship for 275 new educator-members will be provided as they work in classrooms experiencing cultural diversity and poverty challenges. The grant will also fund training and support for veteran mentor-members to further develop their leadership skills.

Michigan Education Association
Building a Better MEA: Mentoring and Resiliency
MEA’s NEA GPS Funded, dual-path project will enable the design and implementation of three pilot mentoring programs for minority middle school students in which veteran education professional members will serve as mentors. The project’s second path will build upon the Affiliate’s work in ACES and move into the space of resiliency for students and staff. Both paths are intended to create working and learning environments that promote student success.

Michigan Education Association
Michigan Initiative to Transform Educational and Equity Networks
Project MITTEN is a three-year collaboration between four Detroit Locals (Grosse Point, Saline, Pontiac, and Southfield), a State Affiliate, and a university working together to advance racial awareness and justice in education. In response to persistent teacher-student “racial gaps,” MEA is using the NEA GPS grant to enhance educators’ cultural competency while recruiting more minority students into education professions.

NEA-New Hampshire
REAPing COVID Learnings: Resilience, Equity, Assets, and Positivity
This NEA GPS Fund grant will allow four State Affiliates (Delaware, Hawaii, Connecticut, and New Hampshire) to recruit and train three cohorts of educator-leaders who will engage up to 1,000 members a year in PD around educator resilience, equity/racial justice, and positive mindsets. The 2021 focus will be on educator resilience; in 2022 work on resilience/positive mindsets will continue and expand to include equity and racial justice.
New York State United Teachers
Take a Look at Teaching/Grow Your Own
This NEA GPS Fund-supported, union-led initiative is designed to inspire a new generation of diverse, talented young people to pursue teaching careers. Partnering with nine Local (Yonkers, White Plains, Saranac Lake, Troy, Fulton, West Seneca, Copenhagen, Albany, and Monroe County) and one Higher Ed (United University Professions) Affiliates, momentum will be created among critical stakeholders to establish and maintain a sustainable teacher pathway.

North Carolina Association of Educators
Building A Diverse Teacher Workforce
NCAE will use its NEA GPS Fund grant to build a stronger, more diverse teacher workforce in some of North Carolina’s most-economically distressed counties (known as Tier 1) where teacher attrition rates continue to rise. By implementing a member-led, teacher development program for high school students, this grant will provide the most cost-efficient teacher recruitment strategy.

Puget Sound Uniserv Council (WA)
Passport of Relevance: Engaging Early Career Educators in Professional Endeavors
To ensure that early career educators find relevance in their Association, this NEA GPS Fund grant will be used to offer opportunities to meet expressed interests, especially PD to help educators working with students in trauma; school-based mentoring to help them grow their professional practice; and grow-your-own initiatives that will allow educators to assist the next generation of teachers while attracting students of color to the profession.

United Teachers of Dade (FL)
Early Career Educator Support and Mentoring Program
This NEA GPS Fund grant is enabling UTD to partner with Local and State Affiliates to support early career educators and empower members through a new mentorship program. Designed to re-imagine the traditional classroom in ways that support student success in a virtual world, the work will include PD that expands on existing platforms and resources to target social injustices and their impact on students and community members.

Wisconsin Education Association Council
Equity Ambassadors
This NEA GPS Fund grant will empower current and early career educators to participate in a journey toward socially aware and anti-racist education. WEAC will produce and deliver a high-quality PD program designed to build and sustain a network of Equity Ambassadors trained to understand the need for racial and social justice work in schools and to feel confident addressing it with colleagues, community stakeholders, and administrators in support of student success.
As the pandemic began impacting students and staff, professional learning state directors of four affiliates applied for an NEA GPS Fund grant to address educator resiliency — (clockwise from top right) Diane Gibson (HI), Kate Field (CT), Michele Ridolfi O’Neill (CT), Irv Richardson (NH), and Deb Stevens (DE). They continue collaborating to promote individual and family self-care and foster continued student success.

“NEA-New Hampshire, Delaware State Education Association, Connecticut Education Association, Hawaii State Teachers Association

“Our REAping Learnings from Covid 19 (Resilience, Equity, Assets, and Positivity) pandemic response has engaged members. Learnings are being shared among education professionals across multiple states, which will positively impact students by addressing racial and equity needs as well as social and emotional learning.”

—Irv Richardson, professional learning state director

Fairbanks Education Association (AK)

With the help of the NEA GPS Fund and an NEA-Alaska partnership, Fairbanks Education Association (FEA) developed a well-defined group that is sharply attuned to member needs, offering relevant, quality professional development, university credit opportunities, and a Guide to Resources. Through such offerings, the School District and FEA have developed a strong, complementary labor-management partnership that is expanding member professional learning opportunities.

“More than a year of COVID challenges has shown that our preparation and common ground lead organically to the expansion of planning and partnering during a challenging time.”

—FEA President Sandi Ryan

United Teachers of Dade (FL)

One of UTD’s pandemic responses was creation and dissemination of the Teacher Survival Guide so education professionals, parents, and community stakeholders could access resources.

“The NEA GPS Fund grant is giving us the means to provide mentoring support to early career educators. During the pandemic, we were able to apply it to an un-looked for need: a reimagining of the traditional classroom.”

—UTD President Karla Hernandez-Mats
NEA-New Mexico

NEA-NM used its NEA GPS Fund grant to pivot during the pandemic, offering a variety of virtual professional development opportunities, including a statewide New Employee Orientation at the start of the 2020-21 school year and a symposium on culturally responsive teaching connected to Read Across America activities.

“Members and staff spent countless hours converting our National Board Jump Start Training to a virtual platform, which we will deploy in upcoming trainings.”
—NEA-NM President Mary Parr-Sanchez

NEA GPS FUND FINANCIALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR</th>
<th># OF APPLICATIONS</th>
<th># OF AWARDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR</th>
<th>$ AMOUNT REQUESTED</th>
<th>$ AMOUNT AWARDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>$23.1 million</td>
<td>$13.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>$15.9 million</td>
<td>$3.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>$10.4 million</td>
<td>$4.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>$15.8 million</td>
<td>$5.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>$26.2 million</td>
<td>$6.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>$17.8 million</td>
<td>$6.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>$20.7 million</td>
<td>$6.1 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>$11.8 million</td>
<td>$6.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>$141.7 million</td>
<td>$50.6 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEA GPS Fund Oversight Committee:
Princess Moss, Chair and NEA Vice President
Noel Candelaria, NEA Secretary-Treasurer
Rudolph Burruss, NEA Board Member At-Large
Andy Coons, Senior Director, NEA Center for Great Public Schools
Brent McKim, President, National Council of Urban Education Associations
Rae Nwosu, President, National Council for Education Support Professionals
Amber Parker, Director, NEA ESP Quality Department, OR
Andrea Prejean, Director, NEA Teacher Quality Department, alternating years
DeWayne Sheaffer, President, National Council for Higher Education
Jeff Taschner, President, National Council of State Education Associations

NEA Officers:
Rebecca S. Pringle, President
Princess Moss, Vice President
Noel Candelaria, Secretary-Treasurer

NEA Executive Committee:
Eric R. Brown
Mark Jewell
Shelly Moore Krajacic
Robert Rodriguez
Christine Sampson-Clark
Hanna Vaandering

NEA Executive Director
Kim Anderson

NEA GPS Fund staff
David Boyd dboyd@nea.org
Barbara Hopkins bhopkins@nea.org
Christopher Johnson cjohnson@nea.org

Go here to access edCommunities; use its search function to locate the group “NEA Grants 4 Great Public Schools.”