

OpenSciEd Research Seed Funding Opportunity Webinar

November 9, 2021



#OpenSciEdResearch

Agenda

- Brief overview of OpenSciEd and the Research Agenda
- Seed funding opportunity
 - Purpose, amount, and grant period
 - Expectations from grantees
 - Digital Promise's role
 - Eligibility / priorities
 - Application process details
- Q&A



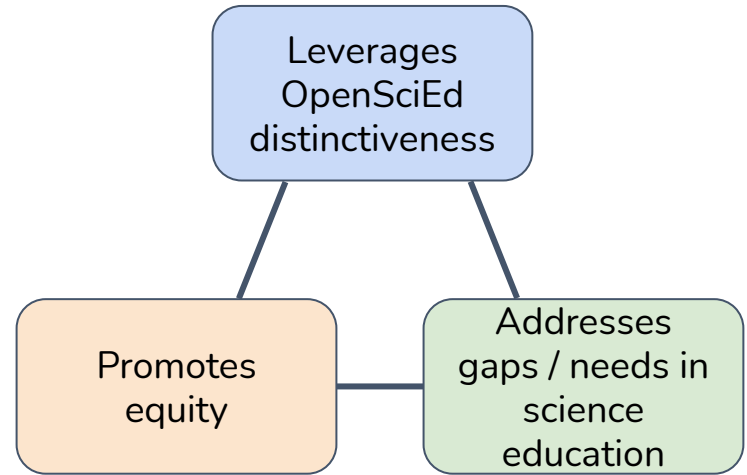
OpenSciEd background

- OpenSciEd is a set of Creative Commons licensed, freely available curriculum materials addressing Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in middle and high school grades.
- The design and affordances of OpenSciEd can uniquely enable research addressing important knowledge gaps about learning, teaching, classroom implementation, systems change, and contextual factors.
- Rigorous research involving OpenSciEd curriculum materials is needed to support deep engagement of K-12 students in relevant and meaningful STEM experiences.
- Findings can promote desirable outcomes for students and teachers across diverse backgrounds and learning contexts.



Catalyzing an OpenSciEd Research Community

- Identify priorities for research enabled by OpenSciEd and contributing to its improvement and evaluation
- Help connect like-minded partners
- Support the ongoing refinement of ideas into submittable research proposals



Working Group Participants and Topics

Digital Promise convened a program committee and working groups representing 79 diverse stakeholders:

- researchers
- designers
- district and school practitioners
- state education officials
- professional learning providers
- program officers
- and others

grouped by interest into five topics

- Assessment (16)
- Pedagogy (15)
- Professional Learning (16)
- Curriculum design (18)
- Technology (14)

Emergent Themes

These overlapping, cross-cutting themes appeared across working groups:

- Student agency and participation
- Promoting the vision of the *Framework*
- Adoption, implementation, and sustainability
- Materials customization and adaptation

What matters for OpenSciEd?
To whom does it matter?

How does OpenSciEd happen?
Where does it happen?
Who makes it happen?

Seed funding opportunity

- DP and CCNY will offer between 6 and 10 seed grants of \$6,000 to \$10,000 to support scholars' efforts to advance a proposal concept.
- Supported activities will result in the submission of a competitive grant proposal valued at \$250,000 or more to a federal program, philanthropic foundation, or other organization
- Proposal focus can be research, design & development, evaluation, synthesis, or something else aligned with the distinctive features and affordances of OpenSciEd materials.
- The proposal concept can address (but is not limited to) themes identified in the OpenSciEd Research Agenda white paper.



Example activities to be supported

- travel to work together
- engage consultants or advisors
- support a graduate student to perform a literature review or analyze preliminary data
- provide honoraria to educators, students, or other stakeholders to give input on a concept
- other expenses directly related to improving a proposal concept prior to submission



Expectations from grantees

- Schedule and attend regular check-ins with the Digital Promise team;
- Identify a specific grant program to develop and submit a proposal;
- Develop a plan for advancing the proposal concept during the grant period in a way that will result in a competitive proposal;
- Produce artifacts demonstrating progress toward the submission of a competitive proposal (e.g., concept papers, literature reviews, research designs, preliminary analyses, and proposal drafts)
- Provide evidence of proposal submission

Digital Promise's role

- Throughout the grant period, the Digital Promise team will provide thought partnership, feedback, and support in ways that meet the needs of the grant recipients
- Digital Promise will also facilitate beneficial interactions across seed funding teams as appropriate
- Examples of support include
 - identifying well-aligned opportunities for the proposal submission,
 - finding appropriate collaboration partners, and
 - engaging in reflective discussion and critical feedback on proposal artifacts, including proposal drafts



Award eligibility

- Stakeholders in science and STEM education, learning sciences, STEM disciplines, or related fields
- Able to serve as a principal investigator or lead on a grant proposal submission.
- Priority will be given to early-career scholars and/or applicants who do not have an extensive history of research grant funding. Applications from individuals from underrepresented groups in STEM professions and/or from minority-serving institutions are strongly encouraged.
- Seed funding could be requested to develop strong applications for CAREER grants or other opportunities specific to emerging scholars or minority-serving institutions.

Application timeline

Application available on [OpenSciEd Research Agenda webpage](#):

November 15, 2021

Application deadline:

December 17, 2021

Notification of awards:

January 31, 2022

Grant Period:

February 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022

Application process

- Complete an online form to describe your background, provide a brief personal equity statement, describe the activities that will be supported by requested funding, and identify one or two potential funding programs.
- Submit a 1000-word concept paper (excluding figures, tables, and references)
 - Provide an overview of the need, research questions, perspectives, research design and/or development approach, and expected collaborators or partnerships
 - Clearly describe how the proposal idea meets the three primary criteria detailed in the OpenSciEd Research Agenda white paper: (1) centers equity, (2) uniquely enabled by OpenSciEd, and (3) addresses salient gaps or needs in science education.



Review process

- Digital Promise will confirm that submitted applications have all required elements.
- Then, Digital Promise will invite a peer review panel highly familiar with the OpenSciEd research agenda to review the proposals.
- Reviewers will rate applications on their fit to the three primary criteria and the priority for early-career scholars.

Q&A

OpenSciEd Research Agenda Team



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