

SCIENCE EDUCATION OUTREACH

PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
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BUDGET BRIEF

SUMMARY

The Science Education Outreach program assists Utah’s professional science organizations in providing their expertise in teaching the State’s science core curriculum in the public schools. Professional organizations match state revenues to support and enhance the delivery of science education through demonstrations, presentations, and educational activities in the public schools.

The program ensures public schools have the opportunity to receive services in a balanced and comprehensive manner over three years. Schools receive services through two programs: Informal Science Education Enhancement (iSEE) and the Science Enhancement. Funding for a third program, Science Outreach – Request for Proposal (RFP), was eliminated during the 2009 General Session.

PROGRAM HISTORY

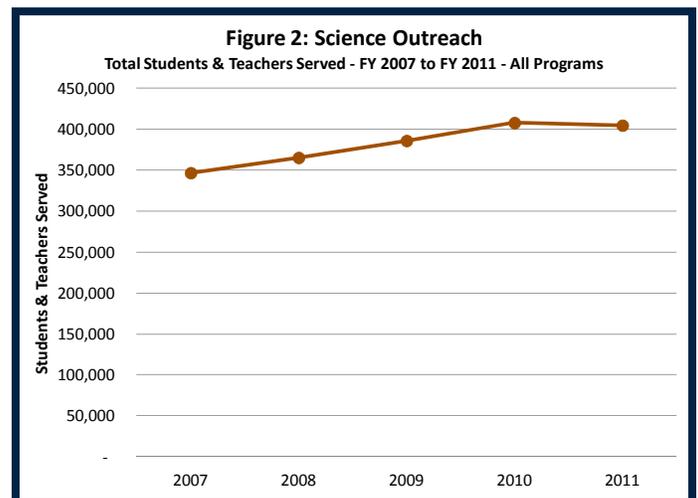
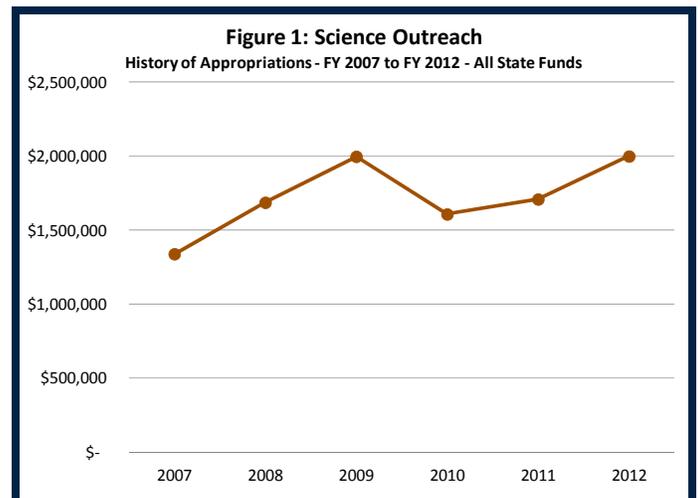
Science outreach programs began in the 1970s when the Legislature provided funding to the Hansen Planetarium (now Clark Planetarium) to conduct educational programs and demonstrations. During the 2006 General Session, the Legislature split the Fine Arts and Sciences program into two separate budgetary line-items; Fine Arts Outreach and Science Outreach. Legislators determined that bifurcation provides greater visibility to the specific needs of each program and allow the Legislature to focus funding to meet specific state goals.

Program Funding

The FY 2012 appropriation for Science Outreach totals \$2 million this amount continues as an ongoing appropriation in FY 2013. The budget table below provides additional detail on the budget and program funding amounts. Figure 1 shows the history of Science Outreach appropriations since FY 2007. Figure 3 provides the estimated funding allocation by participating organization.

Funding Match

Each organization matches state funds received through the program with funds from private organization sponsors or grants. All funds are dedicated to the education programs offered by the organizations. Historically, these private donations contributed approximately 60 percent towards the cost of education outreach programs with the state appropriation making up the remaining 40 percent.



OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS

iSEE is the largest of the three programs, these organizations have fully developed statewide educational outreach programs and each organization receives an ongoing allocation of state funds. Program level funding allocations and program participation are evaluated every four years. Currently, six professional organizations participate in the iSEE program, including: the Clark Planetarium, Discovery Gateway, the Living Planet Aquarium, Red Butte Gardens, the Natural History Museum of Utah, and The Leonardo.

Figure 3: Science Outreach
Distribution of Total Program Funding - FY 2011

Informal Science Education Enhancement (iSEE)

Clark Planetarium	\$560,800
Natural History Museum of Utah	391,600
Discovery Gateway	198,300
The Leonardo	189,500
Red Butte Garden	146,700
Living Planet Aquarium	208,600
State Fund Total	\$1,695,500

The Science Enhancement program was created during the 2006 General Session. The program provides additional resources to iSEE outreach organizations to expand their programs in order to reach more students and teachers. Organizations are required to apply for funding and demonstrate the additive nature (in terms of students/teachers served) of their programs. This program is largely a teacher-resource program that provides professional development opportunities for science educators.

The RFP program enables smaller, more regional, professional organizations to participate in science education delivery. These programs participate in the RFP to develop educational programs geared to the state core curriculum, expand to provide statewide outreach, and once established receive ongoing funding by becoming a service provider in the iSEE program. Ongoing funding for the RFP program was eliminated in FY 2010.

BUDGET DETAIL TABLE

State Board of Education - Science Outreach						
	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2012 Revised	Changes	FY 2013* Recommended
Sources of Finance						
Education Fund	1,695,500	2,000,000	0	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Beginning Nonlapsing	46,400	46,400	(46,400)	0	0	0
Closing Nonlapsing	0	(46,400)	46,400	0	0	0
Total	\$1,741,900	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000
Programs						
Informal Science Education Enhancement	1,324,800	1,582,900	0	1,582,900	0	1,582,900
Science Enhancement	417,100	417,100	0	417,100	0	417,100
Total	\$1,741,900	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000
Categories of Expenditure						
Other Charges/Pass Thru	1,741,900	2,000,000	0	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Total	\$1,741,900	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000