



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1291

S.P. 528

In Senate, March 23, 2023

**An Act to Establish a Grant Program to Provide for Statewide and Equitable Access to Experiential Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education**

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Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Portland and  
Senators: GROHOSKI of Hancock, MOORE of Washington, RENY of Lincoln,  
Representative: DODGE of Belfast.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §15312** is enacted to read:

3 **§15312. Grants for statewide science, technology, engineering and math programs**

4 **1. Grant purposes.** The institute may award a grant through a competitive process to  
5 an organization or school based in this State that demonstrates that the organization or  
6 school is going to use the funds for a statewide experiential program for high school  
7 students in science, technology, engineering and math and that:

8 A. Maintains a formal affiliation with a national program to provide opportunities for  
9 students to present Maine-based research to a national audience and facilitates  
10 participation in the national program by students who meet qualification standards, at  
11 no cost to the students;

12 B. Demonstrates a plan to broaden participation in student-led experiential science and  
13 engineering projects by creating professional development opportunities for educators  
14 and learning opportunities for students who have not historically participated in  
15 student-led experiential science and engineering projects;

16 C. Maintains a formal partnership with the University of Maine System to provide high  
17 school students increased access to college-level courses and consideration for  
18 scholarship opportunities;

19 D. Implements strategies for sustaining and growing engagement with science,  
20 technology, engineering and math at participating high schools; and

21 E. Demonstrates efforts to make student-led experiential science and engineering  
22 projects accessible to an increasingly diverse student population, including individuals  
23 typically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and math professions.

24 **2. Grant requirements.** An organization or school that receives a grant under this  
25 section shall:

26 A. Provide matching funds in the amount of the grant to be used for the same purpose  
27 for which the grant was awarded; and

28 B. Deliver to the institute a report on the use of the grant money, including measurable  
29 outcomes.

30 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
31 allocations are made.

32 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**  
33 **Office of Innovation 0995**

34 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to the Maine Technology Institute to award grants to an  
35 organization or school for certain activities related to statewide science, technology,  
36 engineering and math programs.

37 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
38 All Other	\$75,000	\$75,000
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40 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$75,000	\$75,000

## **SUMMARY**

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This bill directs the Maine Technology Institute to provide grants to organizations or schools that engage in certain activity related to statewide science, technology, engineering and math programs.