

## **Massachusetts Rethink K-12 Education Models (ESF-REM): Abstract**

The goal of Massachusetts' Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)'s Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant proposal for Absolute Priority 3 is to create adaptable, innovative, remote learning opportunities that maintain academic continuity for students during the COVID-19 crisis and build a foundation for future innovation by local schools and school districts. The project will provide widespread virtual access to high-quality curriculum materials for teachers, students and families through three field-initiated strategies: (1) effective and engaging learning resources for students, (2) guidance for families to support learning at home, and (3) professional development for educators to navigate a hybrid school year. These strategies will be targeted toward historically underserved students: students of color, economically disadvantaged students, English Learners (ELs), and students with disabilities.

Funding will be spent to purchase highly-rated virtual K-8 math, ELA and science curriculum materials, develop a resource bank of deeper learning tasks, expand access to virtual AP courses, and create an Acceleration Fellows program providing mentoring and supplemental math instruction to 9th graders. Non-English speaking families will be supported by grant funds providing translation/interpretation services and coaches. Families will have access to family workshops focused on deepening understanding of curriculum; as well as access to print materials. Educators will receive state-funded curriculum-aligned professional development on best practices in remote instruction. Partners in this work include districts, curriculum publishers, community-based and stakeholder advocacy organizations. By building an infrastructure and providing resources for remote learning, this project will pave the way for Massachusetts to rethink how we deliver a high-quality education to every child, serving hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts students and thousands of educators.