

# Nevada Department of Education Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

**Applications Due:  
Wednesday, April 11, 2018 by 5:00 PM PST**

**Mary Holsclaw, EPP: Competency-Based Education and STEM**

**Nevada Department of Education**  
755 North Rook Street, Suite 107  
Carson City, NV 89701  
Phone: (775) 687-5935  
Email: [mholsclaw@doe.nv.gov](mailto:mholsclaw@doe.nv.gov)

# Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program: Fast Facts

**How to apply:** Per AB110, an application must be submitted by the board of trustees of a school district site or the governing body of a charter. Districts or governing bodies of charter schools with multiple schools interested in participating in the pilot program should complete and submit an individual application for each school rather than a single, system-wide application.

Below are suggested steps to complete the process.

**Step 1:** School sites must consider each question carefully while completing the application.

**Step 2:** Schools must then submit the completed application to their district board of trustees or governing body of the charter school for approval.

**Step 3:** Once approved, the district board of trustees or governing body of the charter school will submit the application to the Department.

**Deadline:** All applications must be delivered to Mary Holsclaw at the Nevada Department of Education office by **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.**

**Requirements** To be considered, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) must receive an original signed copy of the complete application **along with an electronic copy containing one complete application file in Microsoft Word (read-only) or PDF format.** Email the electronic copy to [mholsclaw@doe.nv.gov](mailto:mholsclaw@doe.nv.gov) . All email submissions will be confirmed with a receipt email from NDE within one business day. It is the responsibility of the school site to follow up with NDE to confirm the receipt of the application by the articulated due date. The narrative sections of the proposal must be double-spaced with 12-point font. The hard copy must include original signatures on the Statement of Commitment and Statement of Assurances pages. The application must be received at the Department by **5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.** Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications should be mailed or delivered to:

Standards and Instructional Supports  
Mary Holsclaw  
Nevada Department of Education  
755 North Roop Street, Suite 107  
Carson City, NV 89701

**Application Award:** No state funding is associated with this application.

**QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROGRAM/APPLICATION MAY BE DIRECTED TO:**

Contact: Mary Holsclaw, EPP: Competency-Based Education and STEM  
Email: [mholsclaw@doe.nv.gov](mailto:mholsclaw@doe.nv.gov) Phone: 775-687-5935

## Background Information

The Nevada Legislature passed AB110 authorizing the creation of a Competency-Based Education Network (CBEN) and pilot program. Per Assembly Bill 110, competency-based education is defined as, “a system of instruction by which a pupil advances to a higher level of learning when the pupil demonstrates mastery of a concept or skill, regardless of the time, place or pace at which the pupil progresses”. The legislation also calls for the creation of a CBE Network comprised of stakeholders from chosen pilot sites, representatives of the higher education system in Nevada and others.

### **The qualifications and conditions for participation by a school in the pilot program, including, without limitations:**

1. A commitment by the school district or charter school to have a schoolwide competency-based education system within 5 years.
2. Evidence of support for the implementation of competency-based education by the community served by the school district or charter school.
3. A commitment to participate in the Competency-Based Education Network (CBEN).

### **A school selected to participate in the CBEN and pilot program to provide competency-based education shall:**

1. Implement a system of instruction by which a pupil advances to a higher level of learning when the pupil demonstrates mastery of a concept or skill;
2. Establish concrete skills on which a pupil will be evaluated that include explicit, measurable and transferable learning objectives;
3. Ensure that assessment is a meaningful and positive learning experience for pupils;
4. Ensure that pupils receive timely and differentiated support and feedback based upon their individual learning needs; and
5. Ensure that pupils are able to apply knowledge learned, create new knowledge and develop important skills and dispositions relating to such knowledge.

### **The application consists of five sections:**

1. School Overview
2. School Narrative
3. School Evidence of Support
4. Statement of Commitment of Participation in the Competency-Based Education Network
5. Statement of Assurances

# Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

## Section One: School Overview

**Name of LEA:**

**School that will be engaged in Nevada Competency-based Education Network and Pilot Program:**

**Address:**

**Grades Served:**

**Student Enrollment:**

**Demographic Information:**

**Size of Faculty :**

**Application Lead Contact:**

**Position:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**School Administrator Contact:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

# Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

## Section Two: School Narrative

The successful transition and implementation of competency-based education can hinge on thoughtful planning and design coupled with intentional communication and outreach efforts. It is understood that applicants will be beginning at different development stages in designing or implementing this work.

Please complete the following narrative with as much detail as possible. There will be an annual progress report where participants will provide updated information to inform the work of the CBE Network.

Please note that in reviewing this application the department is looking for schools/charter schools that will make the commitment of full schoolwide implementation by the end of five years.

**1. Why is your school site interested in implementing competency-based education?**

Please describe the rationale and vision for implementing competency-based education.

**2. How will competency-based education align with your current school strategic plan?**

You are encouraged to address both successful alignments and potential challenges.

**3. What steps has your school site taken to explore competency-based education?**

**Describe any continued or prior consultation with outside experts, development network or organization.** (ex. League of Innovative Schools, iNACOL, school in another state that has implemented CBE, etc.).

**4. Please share the goals you want to achieve by participating in the pilot program and being part of the CBE Network.**

(we encourage you to consider outcomes in alignment with the [Nevada State Board of Education Strategic Plan](#))

**5. How do you plan to contribute toward building statewide CBE policy through your participation on the CBE Network?**

**6. What steps has the principal(s) of the school(s) in this application taken to create buy-in amongst school staff toward the transition to CBE? Does staff support this transition?**

## Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

### Section Two: School Narrative continued

7. Provide both a timeline for your school site to communicate a transition to competency-based education to all community stakeholders, and the plan for implementation of CBE.
8. Does your school currently use competencies (key concepts and skills that are agreed upon schoolwide? e.g., list various subjects and grade levels)? If so, how are the competencies being used (e.g. for grades, credit awards)?
9. What strategies do you currently use or may plan to use to support students in a competency-based education model?
10. What metrics might you consider to determine progress in student achievement and success? (These metrics can be changed in the future as the school develops its CBE implementation plan.)
11. Describe any state law, policy, or regulation you believe that *might* require a waiver. The request shall include a rationale of how an exemption will support implementation and propose alternative solutions.
12. At this early stage, what assistance (outside of financial support) do you anticipate needing from the Nevada Department of Education? (i.e. assistance with planning, communications, assessment, development of competencies, budgeting, professional development, etc.)

## Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

### Section Three: Evidence of support for the implementation of competency-based education from the community served by the school or charter school.

Interested school/charter sites must provide evidence of support from the community served. Types of evidence include: a letter of support from the school organizational team, parent teacher association (PTA), and or other community partners; evidence of meetings with teachers, parents or community members in which the topic of participating in the pilot program was discussed and supported; the support of a school-based CBE task force created by the principal and made up of a subset of parents, teachers, and others, etc.

**Note:** Schools that wish to participate in the pilot program but have not received community support may be approved on a conditional basis, with the submission of a plan and a timeline for obtaining evidence of community support.

# Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

## Section Four: Statement of Commitment of Participation in the Competency-Based Education Network

In joining the Competency-Based Education Network, your school commits to working in partnership with the Nevada State Board of Education, the Nevada Department of Education and other Nevada Competency-Based Education Network schools to fulfill the following legislative requirements:

- (a) Study approaches to converting requirements regarding the amount of time a pupil is required to spend in a classroom into competency measures;
- (b) Study tools for use in personalized learning and competency-based education;
- (c) Study approaches to ensure appropriate examinations are prescribed by the State Board pursuant to NRS 389.171;
- (d) Study strategies for improving competency-based education through the use of technology;
- (e) Study professional development relating to competency-based education and other support to assist educators in transitioning to a system of competency-based education;
- (f) Provide support and share data and best practices among schools participating in the pilot program;
- (g) Identify barriers and possible solutions to implementing a statewide system of competency-based education;
- (h) Develop evidence-based recommendations for the continued implementation of a system of competency-based education;

**Note:** Any school/charter school wishing to exit the CBE Network and pilot program after being accepted into the Network, may do so by submitting a letter stating as such, signed by the school administrator and the board of trustees or a charter school administrator and the governing body of said charter school, to the Nevada Department of Education. The Nevada Department of Education will honor the request.

School Principal/Administrator:

School Principal/Administrator Signature:

School:

Date:

Superintendent:

Superintendent Signature:

District/Charter School:

Date:



# Application for Competency-Based Education Network and Pilot Program

## Section Five: Statement of Assurances

- Serve as a Competency-Based Education Pilot Site
- Engage in Data Collection and Reporting
- Participate in Evaluation Activities
- Participate in Nevada Competency-Based Education Network

School Principal/Administrator:

School Principal/Administrator Signature:

School:

Date:

Superintendent:

Superintendent Signature:

District:

Date: