



CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

**TOM TORLAKSON**

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 30, 2018

Dear County and District Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, and School Principals:

**EDUCATION FOR A GLOBAL ECONOMY: CALIFORNIA'S MODEL  
PROGRAMS AWARD COMPETITION**

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela*

California's diversity is our treasure, and it powers our future. Our kindergarten through grade twelve (K–12) student population of 6.2 million includes the largest number of immigrant families and English learners of any state. Together, they represent a wealth of cultural and linguistic resources that, when shared, enhance the educational experience of all students.

To prepare all students to lead as global citizens, their learning must extend far beyond the classroom; it must traverse our borders. Every student must have the opportunity to develop the global competencies that the successful pursuit of higher education and rewarding careers now demand. Globally competent students demonstrate respect for diversity and develop critical skills in empathy, collaboration, communication, and creative problem solving.

Reaching the goal of providing a globally connected education to California students starts with strong programs that can be leveraged and replicated as well as strong teachers who are willing and able to mentor others. We recognize that many of our local educational agencies are already preparing their students for global citizenship with innovative programs, and can serve as leaders and mentors to others as every school aspires to meet the mission of the California Department of Education (CDE):

California will provide a world-class education for all students, from early childhood to adulthood. The Department of Education serves our state by innovating and collaborating with educators, schools, parents, and community partners. Together, as a team, we prepare students to live, work, and thrive in a multicultural, multilingual, and highly connected world.

For this reason, I am pleased to announce the Education for a Global Economy Model Program Award and to invite schools currently meeting the challenge of providing key

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elements of a global education to apply. We seek to recognize five schools within the state that may serve as replicable and sustainable models of effective programming, structures, and strategies in global education, laying the groundwork to encourage all California schools in the strategic integration of global education practices into every grade level and across all subject areas.

Please visit the CDE Global Education and International Studies Web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/hs/globaled-intlstudres.asp> for application materials. A Webinar to provide an overview of the awards program, discuss eligibility requirements, and walk through the application will be held on February 8, 2018, from 3 to 4 p.m. Information to access the Webinar will also be available on the CDE Global Education and International Studies Web page.

Funding for these awards is made possible through a grant to the CDE from the Longview Foundation. The CDE and partner organizations are conducting this award competition based on the recommendations contained in the report, *Educating for Global Competency: Findings and Recommendations from the 2016 California Global Education Summit*, which is available on the MyDigitalChalkboard Web site at <https://www.mydigitalchalkboard.org/>.

Show us what you have done, what you are doing, and how you can help others to adopt or adapt your approach to global education. Working together in this way, we will grow our expertise and help all California students to become globally competent citizens.

If you have any questions about the Global Education for a Global Economy grant opportunity, please contact Janet Mann, Education Programs Consultant, by phone at 916-323-5818 or by e-mail at [jmann@cde.ca.gov](mailto:jmann@cde.ca.gov), or Susie Watt, Education Programs Consultant, by phone at 916-323-5252 or by e-mail at [swatt@cde.ca.gov](mailto:swatt@cde.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Tom Torlakson

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