



2020-2021

Program Guidelines & Overview

2020-2021 Grant Application Deadlines and General Information

- Awards are funded up to \$500 per classroom or \$1,500 per grade level / school-wide project.
 - **NEW THIS YEAR:** STEM projects will have a \$750 maximum for classroom grants, and \$2,000 for grade-level and school wide projects.
- Subject areas: Literacy, STEM and the Arts.
 - Grant Cycle I – Deadline: Friday, September 25, 2020
 - Grant Cycle II – Deadline: Friday, October 30, 2020
 - Grant Cycle III – Deadline: Friday, November 20, 2020

Educator Eligibility

- All SCPS educators are eligible to apply for grant funding through Grants for Great Ideas.
- Educator's current assignment (I.E. Seminole Virtual, Seminole Connect, or Face-to-face) does not impact eligibility for funding.
- If you are applying for funds as a teacher participating in one of the remote options, please see the following project ideas for a sense of what is possible:
 - Virtual Field Trips
 - Literacy projects using ebooks or other technology accessible online like magazine subscriptions
 - STEM projects in which the teacher could record their experiment using equipment purchased through GFGE
 - Digital Art projects facilitated through purchasing software/apps

Grant Project Requirements: What is the Grants Committee looking for?

- Projects should address school and district goals
- Projects should meet Florida standards
- Projects must have measurable outcomes
- Projects should be innovative and creative
- Projects should provide changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes, behavior

Mandatory Reporting of Outcomes

- All projects in Literacy, STEM, or Art must have measurable outcomes and the ability to track those outcomes.
- All projects must track the number of students who participate.
- Include the learning goals for your students and a standardized measurement tool. What do you want them to learn? How will you determine if they met the goal?

Mandatory Reporting of Outcomes

- All recipients must be prepared to provide answers to the following questions for the state report using test scores, surveys of students or other tracking:

Arts Projects:

- Use pre- and post-participation surveys to gauge measurable outcomes associated with your project. For example, develop a survey about a student's interest in continued learning about the arts, or their interest in pursuing artistic endeavors, careers, or majors.

Literacy projects:

- Provide the # of students who improved either their overall grade in a related subject, or improved their scores on a reading skills test administered by the teacher, such as iReady
- Provide pre and post-participation data on changes in students' attitude toward reading and literacy, their interest in pursuing more literacy/reading related activities, and if they have increased how much they read outside of school; or a similar pre and post-participation survey

STEM projects:

- Provide the # of students who improved their grade in a STEM subject area, or improved their scores on a teacher administered skills test, such as iReady.
- Provide pre and post-participation data on changes in students' interest in STEM Careers, STEM majors/learning, and their participating in STEM-related activities outside of coursework; or a similar pre and post-participation survey

Technology Requests

- Must make a strong case for the educational value
- Research lowest price with SCPS computer store and provide backup. Most items must be purchased through them.
 - <http://www.scps.k12.fl.us/purchasing/ComputerStore.aspx>
- Items must be supported by SCPS Information Services
- Proper tracking and storage at your school is required
- Items become property of the school, not the teacher

Expenditure Reporting

- Expenditure reporting has moved to an online system. All expenditure reports will be due May 14th 2021.
- You will no longer be required to submit receipts detailing every purchase that you have made. However, you should keep these records in case they are ever needed.
- Now, all expended funds must be shown through an Account History Report, which your bookkeeper can provide to you.
- Failure to submit expenditure reporting by the required date may disqualify you from funding next year.

Allowable Expenses

The following is a non-exhaustive list of allowable expenses and should be used in conjunction with the unallowable expenses slide to guide your purchases:

- Books if they are accompanied by a structured activity, not to be used to supplement teacher library
- Costuming and other performance materials for school productions
- Software and apps that will enhance student learning
- Equipment such as 3D printers, coding robots, specialized art tools, etc.
- Consumable Literacy, STEM, and Art supplies like wiring, circuit boards, paint, brushes, workbooks, etc.
- Printing expenses for classroom resources
- Field trips costs including digital, in-house, or external, such as transportation, admission fees, etc.
- Performers/performances that are tied to a structured activity that has measurable outcomes

Unallowable Expenses

- Tax on purchases will not be reimbursed and cannot be paid for through funds received from The Foundation. This will become the responsibility of the teacher or school.
- Food/Refreshments
- Rewards – trophies, trinkets, gift cards
- Recognition items – certificates, etc.
- Furniture (including but not limited to: bean bag chairs, shelving units, storage bins)
- Uniforms/clothing items (Besides costuming for drama productions)
- Speaking fees with regard to authors, celebrities, and other professionals (Paid performers/facilitators associated with an organization are allowable)

The Grants Committee also will not award funding for the following requests:

- Books that will simply be added to a teacher's classroom library. Any requests for books must be tied to a specific project and activity.
- Software programs that can be funded by a school's budget;
- Hardware that can be funded by a schools' budget. Items that improve classroom instruction and students understanding with quantifiable results will be considered, but require a strong case for the educational value they offer;
- Equipment that is available and can be purchased through the school/district;
- Costs to secure speakers;
- Funding for charter schools;
- For projects which include the mailing of letters and/or packages by the students, postage costs will not be funded;
- Requests for materials/projects that will later be donated to the community or auctioned off as a fundraiser will not be funded (all materials must remain the property of the school).

2020-2021 Timeline – Reporting schedule

- February 26, 2021 – All Cycle I, II, III grant awards must be spent by this date.
- April 23, 2021 - All projects must be implemented by this date in order to gather data (grades and measurable outcomes) from your students.
- May 14, 2021 - Final evaluation **AND** Expenditure reports due.
- **All reporting this year will be online and done in a similar format to the application.**
- **Failure to submit expenditure report or evaluation report will disqualify future grant awards.**

If you have questions:

Contact Tom Webb at 407-320-0170 or

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Good Luck!