



Teacher Creativity Grant Guidelines

Description	Teacher Creativity Grants provide District 181 staff members the funding to put their ideas for enhancing the educational experience of District 181 students into action.
Purpose	To encourage innovation and creativity in classroom and provide individual educators the opportunity to try out new ideas without risking tax dollars.
Characteristics of a Successful Grant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It funds an educational opportunity that is currently not available in District 181. 2. It could be used as a seed, model, or pilot for other educators or it provides a resource that could immediately be available and used throughout the District. 3. It supports the strategic goals of the District. 4. It enhances the curriculum. 5. It can be implemented within the current District facilities and technology infrastructure.
Maximum Award:	\$5000
Funding Uses:	<p>Grants may be used to fund any combination of the following: equipment, materials, software, hardware, stipends, and training.</p> <p>Grants may be part of a larger project. If that is the case, then the following criteria also must be met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The funding for the larger project must be in place before Foundation funds are released. 2. The portion funded by the Foundation must be clearly defined and have the characteristics of a successful Teacher Creativity Grant.
Stipends:	<p>Stipend Rate: \$40/hour</p> <p>Stipends will be paid for hours spent outside of the school day to plan, design and implement the proposal. The entire cost of the grant, including stipends may not exceed \$5000.</p> <p>To receive the stipend payment, an educator must submit a stipend request form and a W-9 form to the Foundation. These forms can be downloaded from the Foundation's website. The amount paid for a stipend will not exceed the amount estimated in the approved grant.</p>

<p>Equipment, Software, Hardware and Materials:</p>	<p>All technology-related purchases must be coordinated with the District 181 Director of Technology.</p> <p>All invoices or receipts for other materials and equipment should be submitted directly to Kay Less in the District 181 Administration Office.</p>
<p>Application Process</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a short letter of Inquiry to the District 181 Foundation that describes the proposal. (maximum length 150 words). 2. A Foundation representative will contact the applicant to discuss the idea and to confirm that the idea meets all the Foundation's criteria for a successful grant and that funding is available. 4. The grant application is a fill-in enabled pdf. It must be opened in Adobe Reader; pdf files that are opened and filled out using the Preview feature of an Apple product will not be saved correctly. 3. Save the completed grant application as a pdf and email it to: teachergrants@d181foundation.org
<p>Application Deadline</p>	<p>Grant proposals are accepted any time. Applicants will be notified about acceptance of the proposal within three weeks of receipt.</p>
<p>Funding Priority</p>	<p>Accepted grants are funded in the order they are received until budgeted funds for the year have been spent.</p>
<p>Funding Requests that will not be granted.</p>	<p>Teacher Creativity Grants may not be used to fund the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement or upgrade of an existing piece of equipment or software. 2. Replacement of the existing facilities. 3. One-time programs provided by outside vendors that happen during the school day and are available only to one school's students.
<p>Reporting Requirements</p>	<p>Grant recipients will report their results to the Foundation and other staff members, either through a podcast or live presentation.</p> <p>All grant recipients will be honored at the Foundation's Recognition Reception In May.</p>
<p>Questions</p>	<p>If you have any questions, please contact the Foundation by emailing teachergrants@d181foundation.org</p>