



Education Innovation Grants for Teachers

Guidelines 2023-2024

THE PURPOSE of this education and innovation grant is to support teachers and classrooms in their mission to create engaging, innovative, and inclusive learning environments. We recognize the vital role teachers play in shaping the minds and futures of students. This grant aims to empower educators by providing them with the necessary resources, tools, and opportunities to elevate their teaching practices and enhance the overall classroom experience. Applications are reviewed on a competitive basis with one grant round per year. Applicants must use the official application form, which can be found at <https://unitedwayofacadiana.org/education/educationinnovation/>. All forms must be received by the appropriate deadlines. There is no limit on the number of applications per school or teacher. Separate applications must be submitted for each project.

Eligibility

Any Lafayette Parish public school teacher, librarian, or guidance counselor directly instructing children is eligible to apply.

Important Dates

Funding Cycle: November 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024

Application Deadline: October 13, 2023 by 4:30pm via online application

Notification Date: Late October

Funding Amounts

- \$1,000 - Individual teachers
- \$5,000 - Shared grants submitted by two or more teachers, either within a school or between schools. (Please note that shared grants must directly impact more than one class of students to be eligible.)
- Grants that aim to support innovative projects that have the potential to make a lasting

impact on the entire school can be submitted requesting up to \$50,000.

Checklist

- Statement of Support from Principal
- A copy of any information descriptive of materials to be purchased

Evaluation Criteria

Your application will be reviewed by panelists composed of community leaders and educators, using the following evaluation criteria. Panelists will be instructed to score based on the criteria below, so please note the weight or value of each section.

Approach - Weight 40%

- Well-planned and designed proposal of the proposed project
- Expertise of the educators involved in the proposed project
- Realistic timeframe of proposed project

Educational & Innovation Relevance - Weight 20%

- Importance of proposed project
- Impact on teacher practice and student understanding
- Connection to curriculum

Budget - Weight 20%

- Appropriate request level and use of stipend funds

Results - Weight 20%

- Impact (large or small) this project could have on your students

Important Information

- Recurring and/or traditional school projects are not generally eligible.
- Salaries for administrative or teaching staff for any school or school system are not eligible.
- The teacher must be present at all times during grant activities.
- “Other Contributions” section in the budget page is a significant factor in the grant review process.
- The decision process takes approximately one to three months, depending on the number

of grants received.

- The grant review panel consists of administrators, educators, and community members. Sometimes the panel determines that a grant requires some budget adjustments. The panel may suggest partial funding after consultation with the applicant to determine that viability of the grant can be maintained.
- Keep copies of your completed application for your school and yourself to use as a guideline throughout the project.

Applications must be submitted online by 4:30pm on the deadline date, September 30, 2023. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Please read the guidelines and instructions carefully before completing this application. Applicants are advised to contact Micah Nicholas (Director of Impact) at 337-232-8302 or micah.nicholas@unitedwayofacadiana.org to discuss your project before you submit your application. Education and Innovation Grants for Teachers guidelines and application is available online at www.unitedwayofacadiana.org