

 SCHOLASTIC

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Information About Grants & Funding



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If you are looking for supplemental materials to support your literacy program, there are several grants that may meet your classroom needs. This document covers these key areas:

- How to get a grant
- Writing a grant proposal
- Links with additional grant information
- Available grants

12 Easy Steps to Getting a Grant

Turn your creative idea into a grant project. If you can describe the following you are on the way to successfully winning a grant.

1. Funding Source

Determine which grants are a good match with your proposed project.

2. Target Population

Identify the group that will benefit from the project.

3. Project Need

Document a need for the project by using specific data, such as test scores, dropout rates, instructional needs, and demographic data.

4. Project Goal

State the planned outcome that will solve the problems addressed in the needs assessment.

5. Project Objectives

Clearly define the steps that will be taken to achieve the goal. These must be specific and measurable.

6. Project Activities

Specifically explain the activities that will be conducted to meet the project's goals and objectives. *This is where specific activities with classroom magazines can be identified.*

7. Activities Timeline

Include a timeline indicating when project activities will occur. The timeline should indicate the anticipated starting and ending dates.

8. Staffing and Training

Identify who will carry out the activities, who will be responsible for the overall project, and what training he/she will receive for successful implementation.

9. Budget

Provide a general breakdown of anticipated expenses, including costs of needed materials.

10. Research Base

Cite research that supports the project design and activities to show why the project should succeed.

11. Evaluation

Explain how you plan to measure the success of the project in achieving its goal. Be sure to use multiple instruments.

12. Longevity

Explain how the project can be sustained after the funding period is over so a long-term benefit is possible.



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How to Write a Winning Grant Proposal

As the grant writer, you need to convince the funding organization that your project is worthy of funding. A grant proposal is similar to a personal résumé—you have only one chance to make a good impression and grab the reviewers' attention. The best way to do this is to demonstrate how your project is unique and can be successfully implemented. Here are a few tips to help you make your case:

1. Make sure the goals of your project are aligned with the goals of the grant program.
2. Address every requirement and answer all application questions.
3. Document, document, document! Use local data to support your case, but don't get bogged down with details.
4. Follow all formatting directions explicitly.
5. Write in clear, concise sentences and eliminate jargon.
6. Present a well-organized plan that follows a logical thought process.
7. Establish a clear connection between needs, goals, objectives, activities, research, and evaluation.
8. Write, rewrite, and then ask an objective reader to comment and edit.
9. Carefully proofread for grammar and punctuation.
10. Demonstrate that budget amounts are realistic and clearly relate to items mentioned in the body of the proposal.

Funding Links:

The Foundation Center

www.fdncenter.org

Council on Foundations

www.cof.org/Locator/index.cfm?menuContainerID=34&crumb=2

State Specific Funding

www.nasta.org/stedu.htm

Education Grants for Nonprofits

www.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/2educat.htm

Fundraising Activities:

School Grants

www.schoolgrants.org/fund_raise.htm

All Fundraising Companies Directory

www.fundraisingweb.org/index.html

Fundsnet Education Programs

www.fundsnetervices.com/educ01.htm

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