



peoria public schools
foundation

Classroom Grant Program

Information and Tips for Grant Applications

A Brief History...

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COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
— OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS —

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Over \$20,000 in classroom grants annually!

Grant Eligibility

- ▶ ALL grants received must be ORIGINAL. Any grant received that is the same grant with a different teacher's name on it, WILL NOT be accepted.
- ▶ Program must be operated and organized in such a manner that no applicable anti-discrimination laws are violated.
- ▶ Grant must be approved by school principal.
- ▶ Funds are not to be used for the funding of personnel.
- ▶ All technology purchases must be coordinated with PPS Technology Department (309-685-0181)
- ▶ All items purchased with grant funds become property of Peoria Public Schools.
- ▶ All unused grant money must be returned to the PPSF.
- ▶ If funds requested will be used in combination with other funds, the amount and source of those funds must be noted.

The Traditional Classroom Grant Application

- ▶ Grant Awards up to \$1000
- ▶ For teachers and staff of K-12th grade students to enrich the classroom experience
- ▶ The application can be found from August 1 - October 1, 2023 at <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/90427>
 - ▶ Create login information
 - ▶ Fill out application
 - ▶ Upload attachments to support
 - ▶ Print before you submit



PPS STEM Grants!

- ▶ **Peoria NEXT Foster Grants for Science and Technology Education**

- ▶ These funds are for the purpose of awarding grants to STEM teachers at the middle and high school levels to enhance the learning experiences of students.

- ▶ **Who can apply?**

- ▶ PPS teachers at the middle or high school level

- ▶ **Where to apply?**

- ▶ The application can be found August 1 - October 1, 2023 at <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/88450>

- ▶ **How much is awarded?**

- ▶ Grants will be in the amount of \$1,500

Field Experience Grants!

- ▶ This is a grant to obtain supplemental funding for field trips that enrich the classroom experience for the students and support their classroom curriculum.. Award funds can be used for bus transportation and/or trip expenses.
 - ▶ All trips must be approved by the school principal
- ▶ Who can apply?
 - ▶ PPS teachers and staff for any grade level
- ▶ Where to apply?
 - ▶ The application can be found August 1 - October 1, 2023 at <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/90533>
- ▶ How much is awarded?
 - ▶ Grants will be in the amount of \$500

Best Practices

- ▶ Be EXTREMELY clear
- ▶ Double check (& check again)
- ▶ Apply with the evaluation in mind
- ▶ Be specific with expenses
- ▶ Ask for feedback



Writing SMART Goals

Specific	Measurable	Achievable	Realistic	Timely
S G	M O	A A	R L	T S
What do you want to do?	How will you know when you've reached it?	Is it in your power to accomplish it?	Can you realistically achieve it?	When exactly do you want to accomplish it?



Goals

- ▶ A goal is a broad statement of what is to be accomplished.

Objectives

- Objectives are steps to accomplishing a goal



Outcomes

- What is to be achieved



Example SMART Goals

- ▶ **Goal:** Increase the number of students reading above the 50th percentile by 20% from the beginning to the end of the year as measured by NWEA. This demonstrates 20 out of 28 students increasing.
- ▶ **Objectives:**
 - ▶ To create a print rich environment in the classroom through labeling of classroom items, adding high interest books, and developing a writing center.
 - ▶ To increase the number of African-American literature materials in the classroom to engage students in reading.
 - ▶ Use myON learning to engage students in reading on level for pleasure and fluency.
 - ▶ Use myON learning to engage students in reading material relative to the topic being studied.
- ▶ **Outcomes:**
 - ▶ Students will receive exposure to more words and language, and then expected to use those words in their writing.
 - ▶ Students will broaden their experiences and knowledge about the contributions of African-Americans in society.
 - ▶ Students will improve their fluency and be exposed to a wider variety of reading materials.

Example SMART Goals continued...

- ▶ **Goal:** Increase the number of students reading above the 50th percentile by 20% from the beginning to the end of the year as measured by NWEA. This demonstrates 20 out of 28 students increasing.
- ▶ **Evaluation:**
 - ▶ To track student progress as measured by NWEA.
 - ▶ To collect fluency progress monitoring
 - ▶ To track the number of books students are reading.
 - ▶ To track the number of AR tests students pass.
 - ▶ To track the number
 - ▶ To track student vocabulary understandings

Linkage

- ▶ Clearly define why a purchase satisfies the request.
- ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ Students using audio books will need earbuds in order to listen to lessons.
 - ▶ Classroom books are organized into bins by Lexile (reading) level. Bins will be needed to ensure that materials are organized for student use.

Creative and/or Innovative

- Determine if the grant is implementing something that is already supported by the district. How is your request making it creative or innovative?



Timeline

- ▶ Make sure your timeline clearly lists the activities and when to be completed.
- ▶ Grants begin in November and go through the remainder of the year. Keep this in mind when using particular data.



Capital Expenses or Other

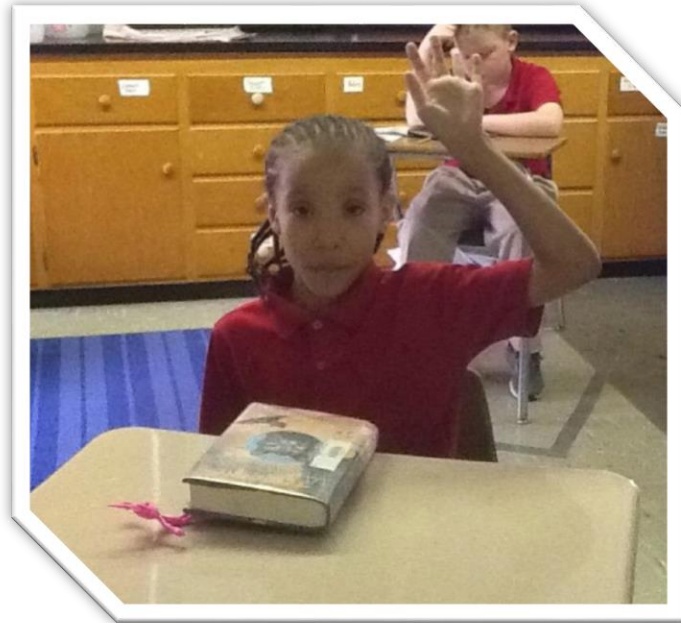
- ▶ If you are doing something with your building, altering furniture, planting in the school grounds, please contact buildings and grounds first.



Evaluations

- ▶ Be honest
 - ▶ Share successes and failures
- ▶ Track expenses
 - ▶ Save your receipts!
- ▶ Details
 - ▶ Capture the data
 - ▶ How did you measure for success?
- ▶ Say cheese!
 - ▶ Don't forget to upload pictures to share your project experience

Questions?



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