
SIouxLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Mission

The Siouxland Community Foundation works to enrich the quality of life in the greater Siouxland tri-state area by:

- Seeking and managing charitable gifts to build permanent endowments;
- Providing a flexible vehicle to receive and distribute gifts of all sizes;
- Making grants in response to community needs;
- Providing services that will help shape the well-being of Siouxland.

The Siouxland Community Foundation, incorporated in 1988, serves as a vehicle to carry out the charitable objectives of donors and administers a pool of charitable funds contributed or bequeathed by individuals, families, corporations, other agencies and foundations for the long-term benefit of the Siouxland area. The Foundation serves nonprofit organizations and the community-at-large within a 50-mile radius of Sioux City, Iowa, to help meet needs in the areas of arts and culture, education, civic affairs, health, and human services.

Encouraging Educational Excellence

The Siouxland Community Foundation strongly believes that our children are the future and that quality education is of paramount importance to their success. To that end, the Foundation led fundraising efforts to establish a fund known as the Excellence in Education Endowment Fund. Mini-grants are awarded from income generated by the Fund to provide financial resources to teachers typically not available through traditional school or district sources.

Recognizing that teachers are pivotal in our children's education, mini-grants for **innovative** classroom projects benefit students directly by providing enhanced educational opportunities.



Siouxland Community Foundation
Frances Building
505 Fifth Street, Suite 412
Sioux City, IA 51101
(712) 293-3303

www.siouxlandcommunityfoundation.org/education.aspx



Excellence In
Education
Endowment

TEACHER MINI-GRANT PROGRAM

Application Deadline
November 1

An initiative of the
Siouxland Community Foundation



EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION PROGRAM

"Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself"

- John Dewey

Purpose

The purpose of the program is to assist teachers by providing grants for **INNOVATIVE** classroom projects that improve student learning and make a positive, long-term impact in the classroom.

Eligibility

All K-5 teachers and instructional staff from public, private and parochial schools within the school districts serving Sioux City, Iowa; South Sioux City, Nebraska; and North Sioux City, South Dakota are eligible to apply.

Teachers may apply individually or as part of a team of teachers within one school. Collaborative applications are encouraged and will be given greater consideration. All applications must be approved by the school's principal, with a signature on the application form.

Grants

Up to \$500 will be awarded to individual teachers (or a team of teachers) and up to \$1,000 for a project that will benefit a school's entire student body. Grants will provide resources to teachers that are not available through traditional school or district sources. Only one grant will be awarded per teacher per year.

Grants can include funding for equipment, materials and activities. All equipment and materials purchased with grant funds shall become the property of the school district.

Criteria

Priority consideration will be given to proposals that:

- Introduce or adapt an **innovative** or **creative** approach
- Improve student motivation and achievement
- Encourage active student participation
- Expand teaching strategies
- Address current challenges or issues
- Support building improvement plan goals

Grant applications submitted for the following will **not** be considered:

- Field trips which are not an integral part of a proposed innovative activity
- Computer hardware. Software and computer accessories that are an integral part of a proposed innovative activity will be considered.
- In-service training for teachers
- Guided / Leveled Reading Program materials
- Applications submitted by booster clubs or special interest groups

Timeline

- Application deadline: November 1
- Notification of decision: By December 20
- Project implementation: January 1 - May 31
- Final report due: June 15

Application Procedures

Attached is the application cover page with instructions on the back. An original and three (3) copies of the narrative proposal (with the cover page attached to each) **must be received by November 1. If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is the first working day after November 1.** Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

Proposal Review

Applications are reviewed on a competitive basis by a special advisory Committee consisting of educators, civic and community volunteers.

Evaluation

Teachers awarded a grant must submit a final report to the Siouxland Community Foundation at the conclusion of their project, or no later than June 15, detailing the project's outcomes and expenditures. Pictures of mini-grant projects in action are welcomed!

Project Sharing

An integral component of the program is to encourage award recipients to network among themselves and share their projects with other colleagues.



Excellence In
Education
Endowment

APPLICATION COVER PAGE

TEACHER MINI-GRANT PROGRAM

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This application is for (check all boxes that apply):

- Individual Project Team Project All School Project
- Public School Private School Parochial School

Applicant Name: _____

Grade or Subject Taught: _____

Applicant's Home Phone: _____

Co-Applicants: _____

Grade or Subject Taught: _____

Grade or Subject Taught: _____

Grade or Subject Taught: _____

Grade or Subject Taught: _____

School Name: _____

School Phone: _____

School System (if applicable): _____

School Address: _____

Project Title: _____

Project's Curriculum Area(s): _____

Grade Level(s) and Number of Students to be Served by the Project: _____

Total Project Cost: _____

Grant Request: _____

State the building improvement plan goal that is addressed by this project:

(please attach a copy of the relevant page(s) from your school's building improvement plan)

If I am awarded a grant, I agree to use the funds for the purpose indicated in this application as approved by the Siouxland Community Foundation and further agree to submit a final report, as required, upon completion of the project or no later than June 15. (A form will be provided.) I hereby give permission to the Siouxland Community Foundation to use information provided in this request for press releases, reports and other public communications. In addition, I will credit the Foundation's support in any publicity regarding this project.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____

SIouxLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION TEACHER MINI-GRANT PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

We are delighted that you are interested in seeking a grant to help with the educational instruction of your students. In order that we may fully understand your ideas and request, we will need as much information about your project as you can provide. Listed below are headings that should be incorporated into the grant application. The statements following each heading are provided as a guide to assist you during the grantwriting process. Please be as clear and concise as possible. The application must be single-space typed on 8½ x 11 inch paper. The entire application, *excluding* cover page & attachments, must not exceed two pages.

1. Project Summary

- State the project title.
- Summarize the project in 30 words or less. This summary will be used in publicizing awarded grants.

2. Project Description

- Describe the project in detail, including what will occur, when and where it will take place, who and how many will be involved (students, parents, volunteers, teachers), project objectives, and the desired outcomes.
- If this is a team project, describe how the collaboration will occur.

3. Project Rationale

- Explain what opportunity or need this project addresses.
- Explain how this project will address current issues or challenges faced by your school, and/or your students in particular.
- Explain how this project relates to your building improvement plan (*attach a copy of plan*).
- Explain what makes this project/approach **innovative** and **creative**. How does it depart from existing curriculum or classroom practices.

4. Project Timetable & Evaluation

- Indicate when the project will begin and end.
- Explain any plans to continue this project after the initial grant period.
- Explain how you will determine whether your project is successful, how outcomes will be measured, and what assessment tools will be used.
- Explain how you will share this project with your colleagues.

5. Budget

- Provide an itemized project budget using the following headers: Quantity ♦ Item ♦ Explanation ♦ Cost.
- Describe all sources of financial support received or committed for this project.

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Send to:

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. Thank you for your special interest in Siouxland's children and for submitting this request