

**ALLIANCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION**  
Excellence in Education Grants Program

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Alliance Public Schools Foundation Excellence in Education Grants Program is to provide educators and schools a source of funding to assist them in planning, developing and implementing innovative programs and creative opportunities, for which funds are not available through APS, which will result in increased student achievement. This effort will allow educators additional opportunities to help students grow and reach their potential.

**COLLABORATIVE/SCHOOL GRANTS SELECTION CRITERIA**

These grants will allow an educator(s) to implement a creative or innovative program for which funds are not available through APS.

- a. Probability of worthwhile impact on students
- b. Demonstration of innovation
- c. Project's relationship to school/district goals
- d. Demonstration of collaboration with other staff, such as library media specialists, support staff, etc.

**TIMELINE**

The following timeline will be used to review and award the grants for each school year:

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| October 15 | Deadline for receipt of applications at the APS Foundation |
| November   | Notification of grants recommended for approval            |

**EXPECTATIONS FOR THOSE AWARDED GRANTS**

- a. Planning for grant submission is a collaborative effort.
- b. Submit an evaluation/summary report to APS Foundation at the conclusion of the current school year.
- c. Demonstrate a willingness to share as a resource person/team.
- d. Demonstrate a willingness to allow a photographer to photograph the projects: "in action" and share at local/national level.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPLETE APPLICATION**

(Important!! **Please read carefully!**)

- a. Proposals **MUST** be typed, 12-point font, with a minimum of 1-inch right and left margins. **DO NOT** include any supplemental materials.
- b. Provide the information in the order in which it is requested and number and restate the heading. If using a computer, use the same page layout.
- c. Do not bind proposals, paper clip only.
- d. Include the names and occupations/titles of all participants or persons who were involved in planning the project.
- e. Feel free to duplicate the application.
- f. Return completed application to Alliance Public Schools Foundation, 1604 Sweetwater Ave., Alliance Nebraska 69301-2599 or internally to Lori Watson by October 15.

**If a proposal is not funded** this year, we encourage you to reapply. Variety in the proposals is welcome, but different projects, even if similar, may be funded in the same period as they will affect different groups of students.

1. What is the application deadline?

*The deadline for submission of the grant application is October 15. If October 15 falls on a school holiday or a weekend, applications are due the following regular school day. Applications should be received by the Alliance Public Schools Foundation, 1604 Sweetwater Ave., Alliance, Nebraska 69301-2599 or internally to Lori Watson.*

2. What are the dollar amounts available and what time frame does this cover?

*There is no predetermined amount per grant. Grants may range from \$100 to \$6,500 with total grants equaling no more than \$6,500. Occasionally applicants will be asked to consider a reduced budget request. The dollars are expected to be expended prior to August 31 of the next year, unless an extension is granted.*

3. Will applicants who received grants during prior years be eligible to apply for additional grants?

*Applicants may apply as often as they choose. Selection is not based on who is applying.*

4. How is the committee attempting to be as neutral as possible?

*The committee is aware that this is always a concern. The desire to make the applications as uniform in length as possible is one attempt at equitable consideration.*

5. Is help provided if we have questions?

*Contact the APS Foundation Office, 762-5475.*

6. How extensive must our evaluation be?

*While it is expected that a solid evaluation will be undertaken to assess the results of grants, this should not be envisioned as a major research project; the evaluation should be considered a sincere effort to objectively assess the results as they relate to state objectives.*

7. Why are we limited to only three pages on which to submit our application?

*The committee expects a large number of applications this year. It is also hoped that the requirement for conciseness will help in your planning process. It is not uncommon in the grant-making "business" to make this stipulation.*

## ALLIANCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

### POLICIES FOR GRANTMAKING

The Alliance Public Schools Foundation secures resources to support quality education through innovative programs, creative opportunities and imaginative approaches that will enrich the curriculum, inspire students and staff and expand the community's involvement.

**Priority consideration will be given to project proposals which:**

1. further the APS Foundation's overall missions as stated above, i.e., enrich, inspire, and expand
2. are innovative and provide a learning experience which would not otherwise be available
3. enhance and complement the mission of the Alliance Public Schools
4. focus on improving the quality of teaching and learning
5. involve creativity in approach, originality of presentation and/or non-traditional views of a program within accepted parameters
6. focus on students as directly as possible

**Consideration will not normally be given to projects which:**

1. are or should be provided through Alliance Public Schools funding
2. include primary expenditures for travel, computers, equipment or a salaried position (this does not include substitutes) unless those expenditures are just one component of a broader project which meets funding criteria
3. are not academically related; i.e., clothing for performing groups, athletic equipment, extra-curricular organizations

**Alliance Public Schools will retain ownership of non-consumable materials. All purchases must meet Alliance Public Schools criteria. No funds can be used to serve any political purpose.**



A. NEED: What classroom/school needs, problem or opportunity does the proposed project address?

B. OBJECTIVES: What are your objectives? Please include specific desired outcomes.

C. DESCRIPTION: Very concisely, describe your project.

D. POPULATION: Describe the target population(s) and how they will be directly impacted. (Please estimate numbers.)

E. APPLICANTS: Who has been involved in planning this grant project? (For example, how many are teachers, parents, community participants?)

F. TIME LINE: Time frame/sequence of events.

G. EVALUATION: Describe the evaluation plan for this project to determine where it has successfully met your objectives.

H. HISTORY: If you have implemented other projects to address this need, describe them, the funding and your evaluations of the results. Are you aware of similar projects which have been undertaken? If so, where and when?

I. BUDGET REQUEST: Detail your budget request. Organize the budget items according to the project activities. Include information such as kinds of materials and equipment needed, sources of supply and cost. Be specific. Payment for services of APS employees is prohibited. However, costs of substitutes may be considered.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Budget Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
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TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST

**(This amount goes on page one.)**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you will be using additional materials, labor, or dollars for this project (i.e., donations, volunteer labor, school funds), please describe.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Budget Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
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TOTAL OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

\$ \_\_\_\_\_