

**BLUE SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT
TEACHER GRANT PROGRAM**

The Blue Springs School District Teacher Grant Program provides monetary awards for K-12 teachers, administrators, or academic support staff to execute classroom projects that contribute to and improve student achievement, family/community involvement, or educator development.

The purpose is to promote ideas for a learning resource or initiative that will ultimately improve student achievement by providing something of real value to students, educators and even families. Through this annual competitive grant program, some activities can be funded that address areas of critical need identified by educators and provide enriched learning opportunities for students. Beginning this May, a limited number of grants will be awarded, with the range being \$50 to \$500.

To be considered for funding, the applicant must:

- Identify a specific area for improvement that supports the existing school curriculum or school improvement plan
- Provide clear, measurable goals and a well thought out project plan that includes an effective assessment process for measuring results
- Collaborate with other educators, students, or families to enhance classroom learning

Who can apply?

Any teacher, administrator, or academic support staff person employed by the Blue Springs School District is eligible to apply.

When can I apply?

2006 Grant Cycle

April 27	OPTIONAL: 30-minute grant-writing workshop at The Freshman Center Media Center. Choose either the 3:30 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. session.
May 1-31	Grant application period
June 1-30	Applications reviewed
July 1	Staff members are notified of their application's status
August 15	Recipients recognized at District Opening Session
September 1	Results Report due from grant recipients

Who Decides?

The review committee consists of a representative group of district educators familiar with current curriculum development and learning resource needs. The committee evaluates all applications and makes recommendations for grant funding. All decisions are final.

Each application is scored using the attached Teacher Grant Program Scoring Guide.

Note: Because technology is dependant on the content and instruction for which it is used, applications for technology are reviewed more rigorously than non-technology requests. Recognizing that technology alone cannot contribute to a student's achievement, it is critical that the educator submit a solid plan

showing how it will be used to benefit student achievement, community/family engagement, or educator development.

What information will the grant application require?

There are five components that need to be addressed in each application. Applicants should complete the online application form

1. Project Purpose: Applicants should:
 - State your SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely) goal.
 - Identify the need the project will address?
 - Explain how the approach will address your needs. Information on experience and research that applies to the project should be cited.
2. Project Plan: Applicants should provide details of their project plan, ensuring the following questions are addressed:
 - How will the project be implemented and the SMART goal reached?
 - How will the project support the existing class curriculum and/or school improvement plan?
 - What tools/resources will be needed to execute the project?
 - What is the project timeline?
 - Who else from the school community will be involved in the project (i.e. peers, school staff, administrators, parents, etc.)? Give general titles only; no proper names.
3. Assessment / Measurable Results: Applicants should specify how the results will be measured (i.e. surveys, test scores, homework assignments etc). Include how much change is needed for the project to be considered successful (e.g. math test scores will increase by at least 10% after completion of the project when compared to math scores from the same group measured before implementing the project).
4. Project Budget: Provide all costs related to the project being as detailed as possible including a brief summary of how the costs were confirmed. Miscellaneous line items are not allowed.

Do I need to complete a report at the end of the project?

Upon completion, but no later than September 1 of the following year, an applicant whose grant is funded must complete the *Teacher Grant Program Results Report*, documenting their project's outcome. Failure to provide a completed report within the given timeframe will result in that applicant not being able to apply for another grant through the Program.

How do I apply?

Applicants must complete and submit the online application form. The application is available on the Blue Springs School District web site at: <http://www.bssd.net> and click on the link under *Curriculum*.