

Get in the Game with Grants

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1. What are Grants?
 - a. Private Grants
 - i. Private Foundation or a company, usually a person or group of people with more money than they can spend and a passion for a cause.
 - b. Public Grants
 - i. State of Federal dollars set aside for a specific project or group of projects to accomplish a goal.
 - c. Big difference in Private and Public Grant dollars and how they are accounted for.
2. A couple of things to ask yourself before you apply for a Grant.
 - a. Does my vision for the project match the Foundation or the Governments purpose for the Grant
 - b. Am I able to administer the Grant successfully?
 - c. What am I going to do when the Grant funds run out? Can I make this project sustainable?
3. When you are applying for a Grant.
 - a. READ IT!! Make sure you understand what the Grantors are asking for.

- b. While you can call to ask for clarification, if you call multiple times, you are likely to get “black-balled”
 - c. If your project is completely crazy, don't waste your time.
 - d. Every request is read multiple times by the committee.
 - e. Take a look at the Foundations' or Government timeline in relation to yours. Make sure you can make them match up.
 - f. If there are multiple programs in a particular Foundation, make sure you are submitting your request to the correct program.
4. Use a team of people. Private and Public Grant foundations want to see multiple people on the request. It is more likely the Grant will be administered correctly.
- a. Make sure your own proposal is read and re-read multiple times.
 - b. Clear and concise
 - c. Do not go over the word limit.
 - d. Spelling!
 - e. 10-15% that are turned in are absolutely terrible and get tossed in the first round of reading.
 - f. Follow the Grant rules. Do not believe that just because your Grant is for an incredible idea that you can skirt the rules. It will not work.

National Grants

Lowes Community and Education Foundation

Lowes Toolbox for Education www.Lowes.com/community

McCarthy-Dressman Foundation www.mccartheydressman.org

You will have to look for Local grants, every region and state is different.

Keep your ear to the ground

Hook up with Local Community Colleges

Search your State Board of Education website

STEM grants!