

Creating A Winning Project Proposal

Funding will be provided for projects which enrich the standard curriculum or school activities in ways that directly affect students' day-to-day school experiences. Proposals should encourage creativity and increase student motivation to learn. Each proposal should address high priority needs at the school and show that funding does not supplant school district responsibilities. Projects must be grade specific.

Priority will be given to projects designed to do one or more of the following:

- develop new strategies and methodologies that motivate students and keep alive their eagerness to learn about energy and the environment
- improve basic learning skills
- improve cultural awareness to better prepare our students for a global economy
- to help underachieving students reach their potential
- involve the community in the improvement of education
- provide meaningful and measurable parental involvement activities
- address critical issues facing Arizona including economic, energy and environmental issues

Considerations:

- grants cannot be used to supplant school district responsibilities
- grants cannot be used for food and/or refreshments
- proposals for equipment and/or field trips will be considered only if they are an integral, vital component of a larger strategy and is **NO MORE THAN 25%** the total budget
- outside consultants and experts, as well as transportation, will be supported only if the expenditure is a necessary part of the overall objective of the project and is **NO MORE THAN 25%** of the total budget
- each educator may submit only one proposal

The Project Description section should clearly outline the need for the project. Define the problem or issue in local and national terms. Include any research to support your idea. Define your target population and the reasons why this project will meet its needs. Explain what is unique about the project, how it is innovative or builds upon what others have done and how it links to core subjects concepts. Describe the anticipated results of the project.

The Activities Planned section should clearly and concisely describe the project activities, the sequence, the scope and interrelationship of activities, the staff and students involved.

The Project Evaluation design will be closely examined since one of the goals of the Committee is to share the results of programs. Programs that fail have just as much value to education when shared as those that succeed. For each objective, include a measurement indicator of results: surveys, pre-/post-tests, students portfolios, running records. Questions to ask yourself are: What do you want your students to learn? and, How do you know if your students have learned it?

Budget items should be related to activities. Include specific information, such as kinds of materials and equipment needed, sources of supply and costs.