

STEM Grant Questions and Answers

Updated (6-12-14)

Q: Is the grant on a reimbursable basis?

A: Yes the grants are on a reimbursable basis.

Q: Can you fund student and faculty salaries?

A: Yes staff salaries are an allowable cost.

Q: Are overhead and indirect costs allowed?

A: Yes, we allow the federally approved rate of the organization up to 10%.

Q: Is there a minimum/maximum amount of hours of student contacts per year?

A: No yearly requirement.

Q: If we recruit students in 6th grade, but they won't participate until they are in 7th grade, is that okay?

A: Yes, programming costs for 6th graders is not allowed but you may target them in your recruiting process.

Q: If you have a prerequisite program that is free could you require it to participate in the new program?

A: Yes, because in this case the prerequisite is part of the overall program.

Q: Is it okay to collect data to evaluate the program?

A: You may collect data in measuring performance outcomes of the program, however you cannot evaluate individual students.

Q: Do we write in the program description just for the first year?

A: No, the proposal should outline three years of services.

Q: Can we mix high school and middle school participants?

A: Yes.

Q: If we have multiple sites can we enhance at one site and start a new program at another site?

A: Yes

Q: Can you use any of these funds for high school credit?

A: No.

Q: Can you use any of these funds for recovery credit?

A: Yes, you can pay for staffing to oversee credit recovery; however you can't pay for the actual credits or credit packets.

Q: Can the funds cover stipends for internships?

A: No, you cannot pay youth to participate in the program.

Q: Are sites eligible for this if they have SP or HS DWS grants?

A: Yes! They may request additional funds to increase their STEM activities. Programs supplementing an existing, DWS funded program must make a strong case for why they need the additional funds. Supplanting is not allowed.

Q: Is it a disadvantage to apply for both the in school and after school grant or should you focus on one?

A: No, they are separate review processes and one does not affect the other.

Q: Are there ready-made surveys that we administer or do we make up our own?

A: DWS will provide the surveys for the program to administer.

Q: So our school houses 6th and 7th grade in one school this can be used for those students?

A: If sixth graders in the local school district are in elementary school then they are not eligible.

Q: Is this grant designed to be written as one application per agency? If so, how do we accommodate for working with multiple LEAs?

A: You may include multiple sites within one application but you are not limited to one application per organization.

Q: Can paper copies be hand delivered, or must be mailed?

A: You may mail or hand deliver your copies as long as they are received by the deadline.

Q: Can funding be used to pay for bussing to get students to the program?

A: Yes, transportation costs are allowable.

Q: Is it supposed to be the same 15 youth for the duration or again, average of 15 per week?

A: No, it doesn't have to be the same 15 youths, at any given time there should be an average of 15 youths.

Q: Can the program be before and after school - or just after school?

A: The program can be any time that school is not in session.

Q: Does it need to be 8 hours a week or cumulative/average 8 hours a week?

A: The program needs to be open to youth 8 hours per work if operating during the school year.

Q: Can we ask for different funding amounts each year?

A: No, the funding will remain the same each year.

Q: How long do reimbursements take?

A: If the invoice is correct, reimbursements take 4 to 6 weeks.

Q: The grant requires we have a licensed educator. If we have multiple sites is it one educator for the overall program or does each site need one?

A: If that person is overseeing the STEM activities it is allowable. However, recognize these are competitive grants and that plan may not receive as high a score as a program with a licensed educator at each site.

Q: Can we provide sub awards to other organizations we partner with? For example in --- we recognize that the strength will be in partnering with other afterschool sites, not doing our own thing.

A: Subcontracting is not allowed. If you want to work with existing programs, you should have them include you in their grant proposal.

Q: Can grant funds be used to provide a scholarship to participants

A: No, funds cannot be used for scholarships.

Q: If we work with multiple schools, do we have to get administrative letters from all of them?

A: Yes, from the schools that the majority of students come from.

Q: If you are adding STEM skills to an existing program, how do you show that?

A: Outline the new component added to the existing curriculum.

Q: Is there a minimum or maximum funding amount?

A: No, funding is based on program needs.

Q: Do funds carryover from year to year?

A: No, all funds must be spent within the year identified.