

What is the TUHSEF Innovative Ideas Grant Program?

The mission of the Tempe Union High Schools Education Foundation to enhance educational experiences for all Tempe Union High School District (TUHSD) students through supplemental resources that broaden personal achievement, promote future workplace success, establish positive links to the greater community, and reflect the District's diversity and unity of spirit. The Innovative Ideas Grant Program is designed to put money directly into the hands of classroom teachers for innovative projects that boost student achievement at all grade levels and in all subject areas. The intent of the program is to help teachers extend student learning beyond the limitations of textbooks; encouraging teachers to strengthen ties between the classroom, other teachers, parents, students and the community; and support and encourage teachers to infuse new elements of creativity into their classrooms.

Who is Eligible?

All teachers and staff employed by the Tempe Union High School District are eligible to apply for Grants. Applicants may apply as individuals or as part of a team. Educators within specific grades as well as across grade levels, subjects and schools are encouraged to collaborate (one application per teacher please). If a grant recipient leaves the district and the project has not been started, the funding will revert back to the Foundation. If the project has begun, the decision will be based on the ability of the school or teacher to continue the project. Grant applications must be approved by the school principal.

It's Easy to Apply!

The application and instructions are available online at www.tuhsef.org. You can print the application and once completed, send it by e-mail to Grants@tuhsef.org. If you send the application by e-mail, please place the signature page in interoffice mail to: Tempe Union High Schools Education Foundation. The Foundation must receive the original signature page within one week of submitting the grant. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the Foundation at (602) 730-1923.

Grant Amounts

Grant recipients may receive up to \$1,500 in funding. Occasionally, due to unclear requests on the grant application or requests to adjust budget items, grant recipients may receive only partial funding and will be asked to revise their budget. *NOTE: Grant recipients will not be reimbursed for any costs of the project above the grant award or for those expenses or items not included in the proposed budget.*

Grant Period

Grant recipients must use the grant funds within the specified timeline indicated on the grant application. Unused funds within that time period will be returned to the Foundation and redistributed through the application process.

How Many Grants Will be Awarded?

The number of grant awards will vary depending on the total funds requested, the quality of the applications and the funding available.

When are the Grant Applications Due and When are Awards Given?

Please visit www.tuhsef.org for upcoming application deadlines. Grants are reviewed and awarded on a quarterly basis. Successful applicants will be notified within 30 days of the grant application deadline. No funds will be made available prior to the announcement of grants awarded.

How Are Grant Applications Reviewed?

Grants applications will be reviewed anonymously by a committee of volunteers determined by the Board of Directors of the TUHS Education Foundation. The committee may include: Foundation Board members, Foundation donors, School Board members, community members and educators within the Tempe Union High School District. The review process will follow a standard protocol determined by the Foundation. No quotas will be set by school, grade or subject matter and each application will be evaluated individually and on its own merits, subject to the grant application format and grant review criteria below.

On What Criteria Will Grants Be Awarded?

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Are new projects, not current or past programs for which funding is no longer available;
- Promote effective and innovative teaching and challenge teachers to improve student performance;
- Show evidence of teacher growth and development as a professional educator;
- Show collaboration with other teachers, parents, business, and/or community individuals or groups;
- Are not ongoing programs for which Foundation funding will be needed;
- Are student centered.

What may grant funds be used for?

Grant funds may be used for the following:

- materials and supplies that cannot be acquired by any other means such as those normally funded by the Tempe Union School District;
- books;
- audio-visual materials;
- computer software and peripherals;
- equipment approved by the District;
- honoraria for experts who work with students;
- professional development.

Grant funds may NOT be used for:

- monetary awards for students;
- District-provided textbooks and materials, computers;
- stipends for District employees for activities outside school hours;
- out of state travel/transportation;
- substitute teachers during the working day unless teachers are out with a class involved in the grant project.

NOTE: Equipment and other materials purchased with grant funds (other than those consumed during the project) become the property of the Tempe Union High School District.

Tempe Union High Schools Education Foundation Innovative Ideas Grant Review Form

Application No. _____ Funding Requested: \$ _____

Project Title: _____

	Possible Points	Points Awarded	Comments
Purpose of the Grant	15		
Purpose and Impact			
Link with District's Mission and Vision			
Project Description	15		
Creativity and Innovation			
Design			
Relevance to Grants Program Goals	10		
Extension of Student Learning			
Collaboration			
Availability of Other Funding			
Evaluation, Dissemination and Future Plans	10		
Evaluation			
TOTAL POINTS	50		