



Request for Proposals

2018 Opportunity Grants

Investing in high-quality, experiential programs and initiatives that enrich student learning.

RFP DUE DATE: FEBRUARY 9, 2018

**The Foundation for Douglas County Schools
2018 Request for Proposals**

OPPORTUNITY GRANTS

The Foundation for Douglas County Schools is proud to offer a variety of grant options made possible by the financial support we receive from individuals, corporations and employee giving. Grant opportunities are available from \$250-\$5,000 and are awarded to support programs or initiatives that meet the following criteria:

- Benefit a significant number of students
- Encourage students to work to their highest potential
- Encourage the acquisition of 21st Century skills
- Lack current funding sources

2018 Grant Opportunities

1. FILL THE GAP

Purpose: Help educators and schools support the basic needs of their students

Eligibility: Underserved student populations and/or schools that have minimal supplemental funds beyond the district budget allocation

2. INNOVATION

Purpose: To support projects and initiatives that create game-changing learning experiences for kids. This can include innovative new curriculum or project-based learning unit, a field trip, cutting-edge equipment, etc.

Eligibility: New (to the school) programs or initiatives that are imaginative, original and innovative. May be experimental but must be grounded in evidence of effectiveness and sustainability

3. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Purpose: To support high-quality professional development experiences that will directly impact student learning

Eligibility: Any DCSD school professional who works directly with students (teacher, principal, counselor, coach, librarian, etc.) is eligible to apply. The grant application must be reviewed and approved by the school principal.

Funding Guidelines

All Douglas County School District sites serving students are eligible to apply during the open application period. Each school may submit up to three requests through the online application, one over \$1,000 and two under \$1,000.

Proposals should:

- Connect directly to student learning
- Show a positive change in student learning and/or behaviors
- Be low-risk and high-feasibility
- Take place before the close of the 2018 calendar year
- Represent a good investment for the Foundation for Douglas County Schools and its donor community
- Address a need, challenges, or strategy of their students or school

Non-fundable items:

- Reimbursements for a project that has already been completed or is currently covered under your school budget
- Payments to DCSD staff, parents or students in the form of salary, stipends, gift cards, etc.
- Payment for substitute teaching
- Snacks and meals
- Sponsorship of school fundraising events
- Scholarships
- Projects that take place outside the state of Colorado
- Equipment or items for an individual staff member or teacher
- Athletic extracurricular activities
- Transportation costs

Report Requirements:

After the project is completed, we require grant recipients to participate in an in-person closing interview to report accomplishments, challenges, unexpected outcomes and success stories.

Site Visit:

We may select your program/project/activity for a site visit.

Publicity:

The Foundation for Douglas County Schools appreciates any recognition you provide in print or digitally. We encourage you to recognize the foundation as a funder in newsletter articles or other materials send to your parents or community.

Application Deadline:

Friday, February 9, 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Grant awards will be announcing and communicated to the school principal by February 28, 2018.

Apply online at: <https://foundationdcs.org/grantscholarships/>

Please direct additional inquiries to Meaghan Sullivan at The Foundation for Douglas County Schools: **MSullivan@dcsdk12.org**