

# GRANTS 101

An Overview for Public K–12 Education Leaders



## What's Inside

- Grant Writing Tips
- Funding Sources
- Glossary of Terms



# Grant Writing Tips

## Getting Started

The grant writing process can be challenging—even for experienced writers. The competition can be fierce. You have only one chance to make a good impression to capture the reviewers' attention.

To ensure that your proposal is both effective and competitive consider these tips:

- 1 Start early** and allow extra time for writing, reviewing, and editing.
- 2 Remember** that a deadline is a deadline. Send or deliver your grant proposal *prior* to the deadline.
- 3 Follow the directions!** Carefully read the instructions to ensure that all required information, forms, and signatures have been included.
- 4 Write concisely** in the active voice; write to communicate, not to impress.
- 5 Format** your proposal according to the required font size, margin sizes, line spacing, and page limits.
- 6 Limit** your responses to allowable word counts. Any information presented beyond the word count limit will not be reviewed.
- 7 Be persistent!** If your proposal is not funded, request copies of the reviewers' comments to make improvements before submitting the next grant proposal.

## Useful Links

Check out these sites for additional ideas and insight.



[Grant Writing Basics  
from Grants.gov](#)



[Grant Writing Tutorial  
from NEA](#)



[Writing Your First Grant  
from Faculty Focus](#)

# Grant Application Components

Most grant applications include the following components.

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<p>This section provides a <b>brief overview of the project</b> and is usually written <i>after</i> the proposal has been completed. The summary gives a taste of the proposal to come and is your chance to make a good first impression.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Audience:</b> Who will be directly impacted by the project?</li> <li>✓ <b>Need/Problem:</b> What need will the project address?</li> <li>✓ <b>Educational Goals:</b> What does the project strive to accomplish?</li> <li>✓ <b>Performance Targets:</b> Who will be able to do what, by when?</li> <li>✓ <b>Activities:</b> How will the project be carried out?</li> </ul>
<b>Needs Assessment</b>	<p>This should <b>convince the reviewer</b> that what you propose to do is important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ How will the needs for the project be identified?</li> <li>✓ What supporting research and data validate the identified needs?</li> </ul>
<b>Goals &amp; Objectives</b>	<p>The goals and objectives should <b>explain what you plan to do</b> about the problem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Are the goals aligned with the project's needs?</li> <li>✓ What results do you expect to achieve?</li> </ul>
<b>Methods, Strategies or Program Design</b>	<p>Give a detailed description of <b>how you plan to achieve the goals and objectives</b>. Include a timeline and specifics of who will do what and when. Activities should relate to the program goals and objectives as well as the project requirements. Each activity should address the identified needs of the targeted population and be sufficient to achieve the measurable outcomes.</p>
<b>Assessment &amp; Evaluation</b>	<p>This section describes <b>plans for assessing and evaluating</b> the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Do you have formative and summative assessment data?</li> <li>✓ How will you know if the desired impacts have been achieved?</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainability</b>	<p>Sustainability refers to <b>how the program will continue when funds expire</b>. Include a description of the commitment to continue the project in subsequent years with reduced levels of funding along with a plan of support from district administration.</p>
<b>Project &amp; Resource Management</b>	<p>Describe <b>how the grant activities will be managed and monitored</b>. Include a list of the project team along with their roles, responsibilities, and qualifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ What existing resources will be utilized?</li> <li>✓ How will management of facilities best maximize the use of funds?</li> <li>✓ Will you work with other organizations to leverage resources?</li> </ul>
<b>Budget</b>	<p>This should be an <b>accurate "estimate" of the associated costs</b>. Be sure to include a line item for every cost described in the narrative proposal.</p>
<b>Final Assembly</b>	<p>Allow extra time to go through this last step.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use the <b>"Evaluation Criteria"</b> as a checklist.</li> <li>✓ Choose a <b>simple design</b>; the emphasis should be on neatness and accuracy.</li> <li>✓ Use <b>easy to understand</b> language since the reviewer could be a "novice."</li> <li>✓ Use <b>"active" voice</b> and persuasive writing techniques. If more than one person contributed, ensure the proposal is written in a "single" voice.</li> <li>✓ Have several people <b>proofread and provide feedback</b></li> <li>✓ Ensure all <b>signatures</b> have been obtained and review <b>formatting instructions</b>.</li> <li>✓ Mail or deliver the proposals <b>prior to the deadline</b>.</li> </ul>



# Funding Sources

## How are public K-12 schools funded in the U.S.?

Public schools receive money from three main sources: federal, state, and local.

**Federal funds** make up the smallest portion of the three, encompassing around eight to ten percent. These funds are usually earmarked for a specific purpose and provide supplemental assistance to state and local investments. Most federal monies are sent directly to state agencies where they are shared with local school districts based on a formula or via a competitive grant process. Below are some of the most common federal funding sources for K-12 public schools.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS	FOCUS
Title I	Low-achieving, disadvantaged youth
Title II	Professional learning for teachers & leaders
Title III	English learners & immigrant students
Title IV, Part A	Well-rounded, school safety, mental health, & ed tech
Title IV, Part B	Before/after school & summer school
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Act (students with special needs)
Perkins V	Career and technical education
Bureau of Indian Education	Quality education for Indian tribes and Alaska Natives

[Additional federal monies](#) will be available until 2024\* to help education leaders and teachers tackle current challenges due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**. These funds may be used flexibly giving education leaders the ability to best meet their individual needs. Allowable uses may include instructional materials, educational software, professional learning, assessments, salaries, internet connectivity, and devices as well as summer-school and after-school activities. A portion of the funds must be used to implement evidence-based interventions to address unfinished learning. The segment of stimulus funds that impact public K-12 schools is known as ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief). Another segment, EANS (Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools) is available to help private and parochial schools.

**State and local resources** make up the largest portion of school funds. Each state has a different method of awarding money to its districts. Economic conditions play a role and vary by state which can affect funding amounts. Most of the state revenue comes from two sources—sales and income taxes. For local funds, property taxes make up almost half of school monies.



**Want to learn more about federal funding opportunities?** Check out the [Forecast of Federal Funding Opportunities](#) from the U.S. Department of Education.

\* Liquidation extensions may be granted by the U.S. Department of Education

## A Closer Look at Federal Funding Sources\*\*

Funding Source	How Are Funds Distributed?	What Can Be Purchased?
<b>Title I, Part A</b> Underserved Students in High-poverty Schools	Formula, based on percentages of students from low-income families	Intervention Programs, Supplemental Materials, Technology, Professional Development, Programs to Incorporate a Well-rounded Education
<b>Title II, Part A</b> Supporting Effective Instruction	Formula, at least 95% is targeted for sub-grants directly to local districts and schools	Professional Development, Evaluation and Support Systems, Educator Quality, Preparation, Recruitment, Induction, and Retention Strategies
<b>Title III, Part A</b> English Language Acquisition	Formula, based on the number of English Learners reported through US Census data	Professional Development, Language Instruction Programs, Personnel, Education Technology, Community & Family Literacy Engagement, Accelerated Learning Programs, Developing or Implementing Language Instruction Programs in Preschools (that are coordinated with other relevant programs and services)
<b>Title IV, Part A</b> Student Support and Academic Enrichment	Formula, based on Title I Allocations	Music/Arts Programs, STEM Programs, Computer Science, History, Civics, Geography, Accelerated Learning Programs, Bullying Prevention, Blended Learning, Mental Health & School Counseling, Professional Development (using data/technology to improve instruction), Foreign Language, Physical Education, Social-Emotional Learning, Student/Family Supports, Technology, Personalized Learning
<b>Title IV, Part B</b> 21st Century Community Learning Centers	Formula to states; Competitive sub-grant to LEAs	Activities, Services, and Programs (focused on academic enrichment that are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program of participating students)
<b>IDEA, Part B</b> Special Education	Formula, includes students with IEPs and children living in poverty	Special Education Teachers & Administrators, Materials and Supplies, Professional Development, Specialized Equipment and Devices
<b>Perkins V</b> Career and Technical Education (CTE)	Formula	Industry Training Equipment and Curriculum, Personnel, Career Guidance, Professional Development, Work Experiences, Miscellaneous Academic Supports, and Certifications
<b>Bureau of Indian Education</b> Indian Tribes and Alaskan Natives	Formula	BIE schools have access to the federal funding sources listed above as well as additional sources including Indian Education Grants to LEAs. Allowable purchases vary.

\*\* This is not an exhaustive list of funding sources and/or allowable purchases

## Alternative Funding Sources

It's nearly impossible to rely solely on federal, state, and local dollars to support the educational programs of today's students, teachers, families, and communities. Additional funding opportunities exist from public and private foundations, grants, and crowdsourcing organizations to help cover books and materials, professional services as well as technology. Many educators are turning to these alternative funding sources to enrich the classroom while preparing students for college and career readiness.

The links below and on the following pages provide information about grant writing tips and additional alternative funding sources.

### GRANT SEARCH ENGINES

- [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- [GetEdFunding](https://www.getedfunding.com)
- [GrantWatch Resource Center](https://www.grantwatch.com)
- [Grants for Teachers](https://www.grantsforteachers.com)
- [The School Funding Center](https://www.schoolfundingcenter.com)

### CROWDFUNDING

Focus	Organization	Description/Grant Amount
Miscellaneous	<a href="https://www.donorschoose.org">DonorsChoose.org</a>	"Public school teachers from every corner of America create classroom project requests, and you can give any amount to the project that inspires you. Connect to a thriving community of donors that is eager to fund your classroom projects. You know what your students need. We're here to help you get it. Founded by a history teacher, DonorsChoose.org is 100% focused on educators." Amounts Vary
	<a href="https://www.adoptaclassroom.org">AdoptAClassroom.org</a>	"We believe every child should have equal access to the tools they deserve to be successful in school. With your help, we make this possible. We offer the most flexible and accountable funding for teachers and schools through our proprietary, easy-to-use fundraising platform." Amounts Vary

### FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

Focus	Organization	Description / Grant Amount
Art, Culture, Technology & the Environment	<a href="https://www.sony.com/US/education/grants">Sony Giving Grants</a>	General Education Grant Amount Varies
Classroom Resources	<a href="https://www.aea-net.org">Association of American Educators</a>	General Classroom Resources Up to \$500
	<a href="https://www.nea.org">NEA Foundation</a>	Student Success Grants \$2,000 & \$5,000

## FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

Focus	Organization	Description / Grant Amount
<b>Education (General)</b>	<a href="#">AT&amp;T Foundation</a>	Education & Skills Building Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Brown Rudnick Center Foundation</a>	General Education Grant \$2,000
	<a href="#">Dr. C. Moorer and Associates, Inc.</a>	From Failure to Promise K-12 Educator's Grant Up to \$500
	<a href="#">Dr. Scholl Foundation</a>	General Education Grant \$5,000-\$25,000
	<a href="#">W.K. Kellogg Foundation</a>	A database of over 20,000 grants serving children, education, and families Amounts Vary
	<a href="#">McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation</a>	Academic Enrichment Grants Up to \$10,000/year for 3 years
	<a href="#">Michael &amp; Susan Dell Foundation</a>	Projects that serve children living in urban poverty, particularly in the areas of education, family economic stability (including microfinance) and childhood health Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Reiman Foundation</a>	General Education Grant Amount Varies
	<a href="#">SC Johnson Grants</a>	General Education Grant Amount Varies
	<a href="#">State Farm</a>	Good Neighbor Citizenship Company Grants Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Voya Unsung Heroes</a>	Innovative projects to improve learning \$2,000
	<a href="#">Walmart Foundation</a>	Local Community Grants \$250-\$5,000
<b>English Learners &amp; Economically Disadvantaged</b>	<a href="#">The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation</a>	Early childhood, STEM, Out of School Time Up to \$5,000
<b>Literacy</b>	<a href="#">AASL Innovative Reading Grant</a>	Grades K-9 Up to \$2,500
	<a href="#">Believe In Reading</a>	<b>Existing literacy programs</b> \$1,000-\$10,000
	<a href="#">Wish You Well Foundation</a>	General Education Grant From \$200-\$10,000
<b>Literacy &amp; Technology</b>	<a href="#">Dollar General</a>	Youth Literacy Grant Up to \$4,000



## FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

Focus	Organization	Description / Grant Amount
<b>Mathematics &amp; Professional Development</b>	<a href="#">Mathematics Education Trust</a>	Enhancing Student Mathematics Learning through the Use of Tools and Technology Up to \$3,000
	<a href="#">National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)</a>	Mathematics Education Trust Grants \$1,500-\$24,000
<b>Professional Development</b>	<a href="#">Fund for Teachers</a>	Supports educators' efforts to develop skills, knowledge, and confidence that impact student achievement Amount Varies
	<a href="#">NEA Learning &amp; Leadership</a>	Open to NEA members \$2,000 or \$5,000
<b>Science &amp; Professional Development</b>	<a href="#">American Chemical Society</a>	High School Chemistry Classroom Grants Up to \$1,500
	<a href="#">National Science Foundation (NSF)</a>	Database of funding opportunities Amounts Vary
<b>Special Needs</b>	<a href="#">Learning Disabilities Foundation of America</a>	Scientific, literary, and educational services to bring awareness to learning disabilities Amount Varies
<b>STEM</b>	<a href="#">AFCEA Educational Foundation</a>	Elementary and Middle School Teachers Up to \$1,000
	<a href="#">Boeing Company Charitable Trust</a>	General STEM Education Grant Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Corning Foundation</a>	STEM/STEAM & workforce development programs Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Lockheed Martin Corporation</a>	STEM Education Outreach Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Siemens Foundation &amp; Discovery Education, Inc.</a>	K-12 Teachers at Title I Schools Up to \$10,000
	Toshiba	<a href="#">Grants for K-5</a>   Up to \$1,000 <a href="#">Grants for 6-12</a>   Up to \$5,000
	<a href="#">Westinghouse</a>	Education with a focus on STEM Amount Varies
	<a href="#">Verizon Foundation</a>	Education with a focus on STEM Amount Varies





# Glossary of Terms

Understanding the terms and acronyms related to educational funding is essential when preparing your grant application. Here are a few we think may be helpful.

**Absolute Priorities:** Activities or conditions that must be met for a grant proposal to be considered; typically used in federal grant applications

**Abstract (Executive Summary):** Usually a one- to two-page summary of the project, including its goals and objectives

**Administrative Costs:** Grant funds used to manage the project

**Allocation:** Money designated according to a formula

**Appropriation:** A sum of money set aside for a specific purpose

**ARP Act:** The third COVID-19 relief bill signed by President Biden in March 2021 which sent \$122 billion to K-12 schools

**Assurances:** A listing of requirements, that applicants agree in writing to observe as a condition of receiving funding

**Asynchronous Learning:** Learning that occurs in elapsed time between two or more people (ex: email, online discussion forums, message boards, blogs, podcasts, etc.)

**Audit (Financial):** The examination of records and reports of a company to ensure what is provided is relevant and accurate

**Audit (Program):** A review of the accomplishments of a program by the staff of the funding agency

**Award:** A funding agency's acceptance of an application or proposal, which results in a sum of money allocated to the awardee over a specified period of time to meet the goals and objectives outlined in the grant application

**Awardee:** Recipient of a grant award

**Best Practices:** Professional procedures that are accepted or prescribed as being correct or most effective

**Blended Learning:** Situations in which a student learns at least in part at a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home and at least in part through online delivery with some element of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace; often used synonymously with hybrid learning

**Block Grants:** Formula-based funds not always tied to specific categories that have more flexibility in distribution

**Budget Period:** An interval of time into which a project period is divided for budgetary purposes

**CARES Act:** Legislation passed by Congress in March 2020 to help address the coronavirus pandemic. This stimulus package provided over \$30 billion to help K-12 schools and universities.

**Carryover:** Grant funding transferred or resulting from a previous situation or context

**Cohort:** A group; often it refers to a group of grantees when multiple rounds of awards are made during the life of the grant cycle.

**Competitive Grant:** Grant that must go through a competitive, objective review process

**Competitive Priority:** Applicants have the option of answering these specific elements or certain conditions to give them additional scoring points in a grant application

**Community-Based Organization (CBO):** Agencies that are nonprofit and nongovernmental that focus their support on community-based needs

**Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI):** A type of school improvement identification under ESSA; CSI focuses on the lowest-performing schools

**Conflict of Interest:** Occurs when an employee compromises professional judgment in carrying out teaching, research, outreach, or public service activities because of an external relationship that directly or indirectly affects the financial or business interests of the employee, an immediate family member, or an associated entity

**Consortium:** A pooling of resources to make as big of an impact as possible and to leverage the talents of multiple organizations with similar goals

**Continuation Grant:** Grant available for the continuance of a program already underway

**Contract:** An agreement with specific terms between two or more persons or entities in which there is a promise to do something in return for a valuable benefit

**Contracted Services:** Services provided to the grant recipient by an outside consultant or provider

**CRRSA Act:** The second COVID-19 stimulus package passed by Congress in December 2020. This stimulus package gave \$80 billion to help K-12 schools and universities.

**Cyber Learning:** A form of distance learning where instruction and content are delivered primarily over the internet; may also mean the same as online learning, virtual learning, and e-learning

**Declining Grant:** A multi-year grant that grows smaller each year

**Demonstrates a Rationale:** The fourth level of evidence-based research under ESSA; demonstrates rationale based on high-quality research or positive evaluation that such activity, strategy, or intervention is likely to improve student outcomes; includes ongoing efforts to examine the effects of such activity, strategy, or intervention

**Direct Costs:** Costs allowed by the funding organization, directly tied to the operation of the project

**Disclosure:** The action of making new or secret information known

**Discretionary Grant:** Grant funding which is subject to the preference of the grantor

**Distance Learning:** Learning that takes place when teachers and students are separated by distance

**Donor:** A foundation or individual that provides the funds for a grant

**DUNS Number:** The Data Universal Numbering System number required for every federal grant application submission

**ED:** The U.S. Department of Education

**EDGAR:** The Education Department General Administration Regulations governing the Education Department's grant programs

**E-Learning:** A form of learning where instruction and content are delivered primarily over the internet; may also mean the same as online learning, cyber learning, and virtual learning

**Eligible Applicant:** An entity who may apply for a grant as specified in the grant guidelines

**Eligibility Criteria:** Factors used to determine whether a person or entity is qualified to participate in a particular initiative

**Encumbered Expense:** Grant funds set aside for project implementation

**Encumbrance:** The legal obligation to pay a vendor or reimburse an employee when goods or services have been requested, but have not yet been provided

**Entitlement Funds:** Money received on the basis of a formula

**ESSA:** The Every Student Succeeds Act, signed into law in 2015, governs the U.S. K-12 public education policy (starting with the 2017-2018 schoolyear)

**Evaluation:** Assessment of whether a project achieved the intended outcomes

**Evaluation Data:** Two types of evaluation data are typically required: (1) quantitative— student test scores, numbers of teachers trained, or other objectively measured outcomes and (2) qualitative— information gathered through open-ended questionnaires, observation notes, artifacts such as student projects and sample lesson plans

**Evidence-based:** As defined by ESSA, there are four levels of evidence: strong, moderate, promising and demonstrates a rationale. The top three levels require findings of statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes or other relevant outcomes based on— (i) Strong evidence from at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study; (ii) Moderate evidence from at least one well-designed and well implemented quasi-experimental study; or (iii) Promising evidence from at least one well-designed and well implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias. The fourth level is designed for ideas that do not yet have an evidence base qualifying for the top three levels. Demonstrates a rationale based on high-quality research findings or positive evaluation that such activity, strategy, or intervention is likely to improve student outcomes or other relevant outcomes and includes ongoing efforts to examine the effects of such activity, strategy or intervention.

**Executive Summary (Abstract):** A one- to two-page summary of the project, including its goals and objectives

**Expenditure:** Payment for goods or services, or a charge against available funds in settlement of an obligation as evidenced by an invoice, receipt, voucher, or other such document

**Federal Funds:** Money appropriated by the US Congress

**Federal Register:** Source of official government announcements for application information

**Fiscal Year (FY):** Any twelve-month period for which accounting books are kept

**Formula Grant/Funds:** A grant distributed by federal departments in which the amount of the grant is determined by a formula based on established criteria that is written into the legislation and program regulations

**Foundation:** A private organization established as a nonprofit corporation or charitable trust, with a principal purpose of making grants to unrelated nonprofit organizations for scientific, educational, cultural, religious, or other charitable purposes

**Free or Reduced Lunch (FRL):** A school's percentage of students eligible to receive free or reduced lunch; usually a determining factor for eligibility for additional funding

**Funding Agency:** The organization that funds a grant

**Funding Cycle:** Starting with the announcement of available funds, the funding cycle includes all phases of the grant, i.e., deadline for application submission, proposal reviews, award, issuance of grant documents, release of funds and fiscal reporting

**Funding Priorities:** Specific elements that applicants are asked to address or certain conditions that must exist for applicants to be eligible for a certain grant

**Goals:** Broad and long-term targets (e.g., increasing high school graduation rates)

**Grant:** An award of money given to finance certain activities with a set of established requirements and criteria

**Grant Agreement:** A legally binding contract between a grantee and a grantor specifying the terms and conditions of the grant

**Grantee:** The person or organization that receives the grant

**Grantor:** Party issuing the grant

**Hybrid Learning:** Combines face-to-face and online teaching into one cohesive experience

**Incremental Funding:** Grants that are funded with specific spending limits below the total costs

**Indirect Costs:** Costs incurred for an organization's operating expenses (e.g., utility bills, janitorial services, etc.) which cannot be readily and specifically identified for a particular project

**In-Kind Gift/Donation:** Rather than cash, it is a donation of goods or services such as labor, equipment, supplies or the use of facilities

**LEA:** Local Education Agency (e.g., school or district)

**Lead Applicant:** A lead agency which manages and takes responsibility for coordinating and fiscally managing a project

**Learning Management System (LMS):** Technology platform through which students access online courses or digital materials

**Letter of Inquiry, Letter of Intent (LOI) or Intent to Apply:** A brief letter outlining an organization's activities and its request for funding sent to a funding source to determine whether it would be appropriate to submit a full grant proposal

**Matching Funds:** Contributions required by a party other than the grantor

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** A formal document required from grant consortium members outlining roles and responsibilities

**Mission Statement:** Declares "why" an organization exists, and is the foundation upon which a long-range strategic plan (the blueprint for carrying out the organization's "business") can be developed

**Moderate Evidence:** The second level of evidence-based research under ESSA; must have at least one well-designed and well-implemented quasi-experimental study (i.e., matched)

**Monitoring:** Overseeing the accomplishments of a funded project

**Needs Assessment:** Documentation of why the grant is needed

**Non-Compliance:** Failure or refusal to comply, as with a law, regulation, or term of a contract, grant or agreement

**Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):** A legally binding document serving as notification to the recipient and others that a grant or cooperative agreement has been made

**Objectives:** Short-term targets (e.g., increasing reading scores by a specific percent within a specified time frame)

**Online Learning:** A form of distance learning where instruction and content are delivered primarily over the internet; may also mean the same as virtual learning, cyber learning, and e-learning

**Performance Measure:** A characteristic or metric that can be used to assess the performance aspects of a program or project (i.e., dollars expended, students enrolled, grade point average)

**Performance Report:** A report of the specific activities the grant recipient has performed during the budget or project period

**Planning Grant:** A special type of grant that enables an organization to gather the resources to develop a strong, full proposal

**Private Foundation:** A tax-exempt, non-profit organization with a principal fund or endowment of its own which are set up to help social, educational, charitable, or religious actions that serve the common good of society

**Pro Forma:** An anticipated, proposed or hypothetical set of numbers for a project (generally the budget)

**Procurement:** The action of obtaining or acquiring equipment, materials, or supplies

**Progress Report:** A scheduled report (usually annually) required by the funder that summarizes the project to date

**Project:** The planned program; the goals and objectives for which the grant funds are being requested

**Project Director or Principal Investigator (PI):** The person responsible for fulfilling the terms and conditions of the grant or contract

**Project Period:** The total amount of time for which a grantor promises to fund a grant and authorizes a grantee to conduct the project

**Promising Evidence:** The third level of evidence-based research under ESSA; must have at least one well-designed and well-implemented

correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias

**Proposal:** Document detailing the program or project developed in response to the grant requirements

**Recipient:** The receiver of the grant funds

**Replicability:** The likelihood that the proposed project can be replicated in other schools or districts or on a broader regional or national scope

**Request for Proposals (RFP) or Request for Application (RFA):** Solicitation document sent by the funder seeking applications from potential grantees

**Research-Based or Scientifically Research-Based:** Projects based on technology, instructional strategies, or curriculum that are proven through carefully monitored experimental or quasi-experimental studies and demonstrated to improve student achievement and/or teacher performance

**Restricted Funds:** Funds that must be spent for a specific purpose, as determined by the funder

**SEA:** State Education Agency or other agency or office primarily responsible for the supervision of public elementary and secondary schools

**Seed Money:** A grant used to start a new project or organization which may cover salaries and other start-up expenses

**Statute of Limitations:** A type of federal or state law that restricts the time in which legal proceedings may be brought, serviced or completed

**Stipends:** A fixed, regular sum paid as a salary or allowance

**Strong Evidence:** The top level of evidence-based research under ESSA; must have at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental study (i.e., randomized)

**Sub-grant:** Awards made under the authority of another grant

**Sub-grantee:** The receiver of pass through grant funds from a grantee rather than from the grantor; sub-grantees are required to follow all policies and rules of the original grant plus any additional conditions added by the grantee

**Supplant:** To replace; to use federal funds for more than one source to pay for the same personnel position or activity

**Supplement:** Something that completes or enhances something else when added to it

**Sustainability:** A plan for continuation beyond the grant period and/or the availability of other resources necessary to implement the grant

**Synchronous Learning:** Learning in which participants interact at the same time and in the same space

**Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI):** A type of school improvement classification under ESSA; TSI is focuses on schools with persistent achievement gaps

**Target Population:** Individuals, students, schools, or other recipients who will be the focus and beneficiaries of services provided through a grant project

**Tax-exempt:** Organizations not subject to taxation such as federal, state or corporate taxes

**Technical Assistance:** Management or operational assistance given to non-profit organizations including budgeting, financial planning, grant assistance, programmatic or financial review, as well as program planning

**Trustee:** A foundation board member occupying a position of trust who assists in making decisions about the way grant monies are spent

**Turnkey:** A complete and ready-to-use project constructed by a developer then sold or given to a buyer

**Universal Design for Learning (UDL):** A framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn

**Unrestricted Funds:** Funding that has no requirements or restrictions for use

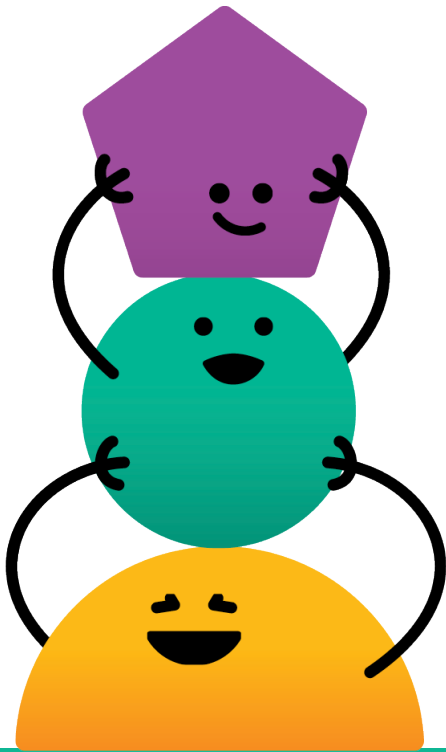
**Unsolicited Proposal:** A proposal that is not in response to an RFP, RFA or announcement

**Video Conferencing:** Interactive communication technologies which allow two or more locations to interact via two-way video and audio transmissions simultaneously

**Virtual Learning:** A form of distance learning where instruction and content are delivered primarily over the internet; may also mean the same as online learning, cyber learning, and e-learning

**Vision:** A statement containing the direction the applicant wants to take and the desired end-result

**Waiver:** An intentional relinquishment of some right or interest



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