



Inspire the Future. Invest in AISD.



**INNOVATION GRANTS
TEACHER TRAINING
SPRING 2018**



About the Austin Ed Fund



Austin Ed Fund is a non-profit education foundation that fundraises on behalf of Austin ISD and gives back to Austin ISD schools through two grant opportunities that are exclusive to Austin ISD campuses.

Check out our impact in our newest video!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdhxPiypoog>



Austin Ed Fund and OID



- Austin Ed Fund works in collaboration with AISD's Office of Innovation and Development (OID).
- OID can help you identify grant opportunities offered by local, state, or national funders.
- Important resources:
 - Grant Development 101:
<https://www.austinisd.org/oid/grants-fundraising/grants>
 - Grant Database:
<https://www.austinisd.org/oid/grants-fundraising/grant-database>
 - Contact Campus Grants Specialist Juliana Castillo to request assistance: 512-414-9851 or juliana.castillo@austinisd.org

Austin Ed Fund's Innovation Grants opportunity: 100% exclusive to AISD!



About Innovation Grants



Innovation Grants are designed to encourage, facilitate, recognize and reward innovative and creative instructional approaches to the accomplishment of learning objectives.

Award Categories

- IDEA GRANTS: Up to \$2,000 for a classroom
- INCUBATOR GRANTS: Up to \$10,000 for a campus/ department team

Focus areas: Whole Child, STEM, Literacy

Rough draft deadline: April 2, 2018 @ 5 pm - final date to submit application to juliana.castillo@austinisd.org for feedback

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, April 6 @ 5 pm



2015-2017 Recipients



- 47 projects benefitting 42 campuses over 3 years: 21 Idea, 26 Incubator totaling \$200,000!
- Funded projects included:

INCUBATOR (up to \$10,000)	IDEA (up to \$2,000)
A student-led 5 th grade girls' robotics club development for the First Lego League competition	A project-based chemistry unit to analyze a real-world issue: the fluoridation of drinking water
A campus media studio to students to write, direct, and produce their own programming	A workshop series to teach parents to reinforce literacy skills at home

Visit <http://www.austinedfund.org/past-innovation-grant-recipients/>
to see the full list!



What does “Innovative” mean in this grant opportunity context?



- A creative idea you have just brainstormed and want to pilot in your classroom
- A successful project you’ve read/learned about elsewhere that you want to try in your own classroom/ campus
- Scaling a small project to a larger scale (i.e. classroom → campus)
- Utilizing resources to broaden/ deepen/ creatively improve a project currently taking place in your classroom
- Utilizing technology in an authentic way aligned with your proposal/ curriculum
- Field trips/ professional development that is directly aligned with a larger project you have developed



What does “Innovative” NOT mean in this particular context?



- Requesting funding to maintain a project you have done for several years
- Projects that are a basic part of your curriculum- not innovative in content- that simply have a budget deficit
- Purchase of materials for materials’ sake (i.e. not written into the curriculum/ project in a genuine way). We will not fund technology simply as a replacement for paper/ pen, without a meaningful project strategy behind it!
- Field trips/ professional development that are not part of a larger creative project/program you have developed
- Projects that should be funded by public funds- i.e. salaries and major capital facility improvements



Tips for Success



- **Draw in the reader's interest:** Choose a catchy project title.
- **Link to demonstrated need:** Why will this project benefit your students?
- **Provide a way to measure success:** State how you will evaluate the benefit of the grant. This can be more creative than standardized test results!
- **Be concise but persuasive:** Application word limits are a maximum, not a minimum. No jargon necessary. Paint a descriptive picture of project activities and innovative aspect. Use bullet points where appropriate.
- **DREAM BIG but be a Realist:** Write out a project plan that you are confident that you can fulfill by May 2018.
- **Ask for what you need:** \$2,000 and \$10,000 are the maximum amounts and we want to fund as many projects as possible.
- **Make sure your principal** has approved your project.
- **Let your love for teaching and your students show through!**



Sample Application



Analyzing a successful 2017 Incubator Grant: Virtual Future*

Written by an AISD teacher with no prior experience with grant writing before attending our training!

**Copy of sample application located:
www.austinedfund.org/grant-writing-resources*



Sample Application: Project Narrative



- **Need for the project:**
 - *Estimated \$120B business industry by 2025, with Austin's industry in this area is growing*
 - *No current coursework for this field*
- **Specific goals:** Goals were clearly listed, some quantitative (*learn VR systems*), some qualitative (*gain knowledge of 360 filmmaking*).
- **Project structure:** Describes specific activities examples and how the materials purchased with funds will make an impact on goals of project.



Sample Application: Project Narrative



- **Timeline:** Outline goals in bullet form
 - Build in a cushion of time to allow for unexpected barriers (activity timeline should be integrated with purchasing schedule).
 - Work backwards from important deadlines.
 - Discuss timeline for ordering materials with bookkeeper, especially if you hope to order over the summer.



Sample Application: Project Narrative



- **Expected Results:** State how you will measure success, with outcomes directly tied to the goals from the project description.
 - **Outputs are good....X number of students participated.**
 - **Outcomes are better! Ideas:**
 - ✦ **A sample portfolio (shows creativity!)**
 - ✦ **Improvement on the science exam**
 - ✦ **A list of the skills mastered**
 - ✦ **A video of students showing what they learned**
 - **May include both quantitative and qualitative outcomes.**



Expected Results: More in Depth



OUTPUTS

- # of students participated
- % attendance
- Hours of time completed
- # of projects or activities completed
- # of collaborating partners

OUTCOMES

- Mastery of concrete skills learned, as evaluated by exam, activity, presentation, portfolio, or other project assessment
- Increase in content engagement/ interest
- Next steps: anticipated long-term impact



Innovation and Transformative Potential



Innovative Aspects:

- *What makes your project stand out? How will it motivate and excite your students about learning?*
 - ✦ *Virtual Future Application:*
 - Brand new technology that is not currently being taught
 - Collaborative and comprehensive project-based learning



Transformative Potential

Transformative Potential:

- Optional for an Idea grant!
- Measurable impacts: X number of classrooms collaborated; we can utilize the materials for Y number of years.
- There are qualitative impacts as well: what do you anticipate the long-term effects will be on your students?
 - ✦ *Virtual Future Application:*
 - *Collaborative, and connected to real-world application*
 - *Hopes to integrate throughout vertical team*



Sample Application: Budget

- Research your budget line items- Please secure a vendor bid for any line item over \$1,000.
- Ask for what you **NEED** for the project vs. the maximum amount.
- Securing other sources of funding shows community support.

III. PROPOSED BUDGET

A. Add Lines as Needed. Please secure a vendor bid for any item over \$1,000.

Description of Budget Items Requested (e.g. contract services, materials/equipment, transportation, etc.)	Partner/Vendor (e.g. Arts Partner, Vendor, Supply Company, etc.)	Cost Amount
2 Smart Microscopes with stands	Smart School Systems	\$ 558.00
4 LiveScribe pens + sound dots +	LiveScribe.com	\$ 550.00
2 Asus Chromebook Flips + mice	Best Buy or Amazon.com	\$ 515.00
2 Canon digital cameras + memor	Amazon.com	\$ 300.00
11 Golden Guides	Amazon.com	\$ 75.00
		\$
Total Project Cost Amount:	(Add the total budget items from above)	\$ 1,998.00



Questions? Ideas?



Contact Juliana at
Juliana.Castillo@austinisd.org
or 512-414-9851

Rough draft deadline (*Optional but Recommended*):
April 2, 2018 @ 5 pm juliana.castillo@austinisd.org
for feedback

Deadline is April 6th at 5 pm!
www.austinedfund.org