

Who can apply?

All Sweetwater County School District #1 employees, any community member or group. The Innovative Grant Program was designed to encourage, facilitate, recognize and reward innovative and creative approaches to the accomplishment of the Foundation's mission to enhance and enrich educational opportunities throughout SCSD #1.

How much are the grants for? What are they for?

Grants are for up to \$5,000. Think outside of the box. The Foundation is looking for your innovative ideas. It will fund projects that enrich and enhance opportunities available to students. Funds are not limited to a specific focus and can include costs for equipment, materials, guest speakers, consultants, competitions, contests and professional development. Do not limit your proposals to only these things. Does your project expand opportunities for students? Is it innovative? Can it be implemented effectively? If so, the Foundation may be able to provide the funding to make it happen. Grants will be awarded directly to applicants, reflecting the approved budget request submitted with the application.








How do I apply?

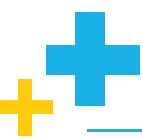
Review and complete the enclosed application or go to www.sweetwater1.org and visit the Foundation links on the left side of the page. Submit your application to the Foundation office by 4 p.m. on October 15, 2010 Everything you need to apply, including the scoring rubric, can be found in this document or online.

What if I have additional questions?

Stop by our office at the Central Administration Building, call us at 362-2554 or send us an email at foundation@sw1.k12.wy.us.

KEEP IN MIND! 

-  Use statistics to back up your data.
-  This proposal must be for innovative instructional approaches designed to be *implemented within one calendar year* from date of award.
-  Projects can take place during the school day, before or after school, on weekends, breaks, or during the summer.
-  If your proposal is not funded, it may be resubmitted during subsequent cycles.
-  Project previously funded through this innovative grant process may be resubmitted, however, the majority of funding will be reserved for new projects/programs.
-  Grant funds will supplement existing school, department and/or district budgets, not supplant them.
-  Return signed application to the Sweetwater One Public School Foundation before October 15, 2010. **Applications must be received by 4 p.m. on October 15th.**



Sweetwater One Public School Foundation
Innovative Grants



in·no·va·tion – noun

- 1 : the introduction of something new
- 2 : a new idea, method, or device

2010

2011

Deadline

October 15,
2010






What could you do with up to \$5,000 for your classroom or program?



Application Process

Please complete the enclosed application or if you prefer to complete your application online, application can be found by visiting the Foundation links at www.sweetwater1.org. Incomplete applications will be disqualified.

If you have questions, stop by the Foundation Office at the Central Administration Building, call 362-2554 or email us at foundation@sw1.k12.wy.us.

INNOVATION! INNOVATION! INNOVATION!

The Foundation is looking for truly new & innovative ideas.

Past examples of successful *Innovative* Grants: _____

- + "Clickers"**
 - + This grant purchased personal response system "clickers" for career and technical students. Clickers transmit and record student responses to questions. A small, portable receiving station is placed in the front of the class to collect and record student responses. The system allows for active participation by all students and provides immediate feedback to the instructor and students. Software logs students' answers, enabling the teacher to determine if students understand the topic as the topic is being discussed. This tool can increase learning in every classroom as teachers are able to ensure the participation of all students.
- + "Good Hygiene Practice"**
 - + This grant helped teach students good hygiene practices and helped to fund curriculum materials, and supplies for this elementary good hygiene pilot program. Goals of the program include making healthy choices, health self-advocacy, taking care of the body and hand washing. Students participated in activities such as "the Germ Buster," where they will learn proper hand washing by using glo-germ to see just how well they wash their hands and how they should wash their hands.
- + "Global Positioning System"**
 - + This grant helped to purchase Global Positioning System units to improve teaching, learning and motivating students to master geography and mapping skills as well as other subjects that correlate to curriculum maps. Students were able to use the GPS system for GeoCaching, as a navigational tool and to improve their knowledge of the Dewey Decimal System and other library skills.
- + "FAN Club"**
 - + This "Fitness And Nutrition" grant supported an afterschool fitness and nutrition program for 3rd and 4th grade students. With childhood obesity on the rise, the program aimed to give students an opportunity to engage in physical activity three days per week as well as enhance their knowledge of healthy snack preparation. This program taught students how to use pedometers and keep a journal, while learning new and fun ways to stay healthy.

Do not submit a grant application with an idea that is already being implemented, a program that the District is already helping to fund, or a proposal that requests funds for equipment that does not directly support student learning.

Examples of what the committee may not consider innovative: _____

- + Purchasing equipment that does not directly support student learning.
- + Purchasing textbooks that can be provided for through Curriculum funding.
- + Proposals that duplicate a program that is already in place.

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed and written comments will be provided by the Grant Application Review Committee made up of the following members as appointed by the President of the Foundation's Board of Directors:

- Director from the Foundation Board
- Foundation Staff Member
- SSD#1 Retired Teacher
- SSD#1 Director of Curriculum or Designee
- Community Volunteer
- Others as determined by the Foundation Board President

Since 2006, 63 grant applications have been submitted & 19 grants have been funded.

For each grant application submitted, the committee shall make one of the following recommendations:

- a) approval
- b) approval with conditions and/or modifications
- c) disapproval with suggestions for resubmission
- d) disapproval.

If recommended for approval, the application will be presented at the Foundation's Board of Directors monthly meeting for review and formal approval.

Awarding of Funds

Successful applicants will be notified of decisions after review and Board approval. Projects will be funded. The SSD #1 Board of Education will be notified of successful applicants.

Keep in mind that the following criteria applies to all applicants:

- Funds must be for students attending schools in Sweetwater County School District #1.
- In general, grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded. The amount of an average Innovative Grant is \$3,618.03.
- The number of awards will depend upon funds available from the Sweetwater One Public School Foundation.
- Schools or programs that have not completed evaluation reports for previous projects will not be eligible for future grants.
- Grant recipients will submit requisitions to the District.
- All materials and equipment purchased with grant funds will be labeled and remain at the site where they are awarded.

Since 2006, close to \$70,000 in grant money has been distributed to District #1 schools.

