

K-5 STEM Education Grants

Proposal deadline: October 3, 2022

All proposals must be electronically submitted, as a single PDF document, via attachment to stephanie.higdon@state.sd.us

Scope: Grant awards will range from \$5,000 to \$200,000

Award notification: Approximately November 1, 2022

Project Start Date: Projects may begin upon award announcement

Project End Date: Funds must be obligated prior to August 31, 2023

Project Completion: Projects must be completed including final report and claim by October 30, 2023

Purpose and Overview

The South Dakota Department of Education (DOE) recognizes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student absenteeism, learning loss, and students disengaging from learning. The department also recognizes that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education can play a pivotal role in encouraging students to be active participants in their own learning.

The purpose of the K-5 STEM Education Grants initiative is to support the development of new, and expand existing, K-5 STEM programming, materials and resources. All programming, materials and resources must be aligned to South Dakota's academic content standards. The K-5 STEM initiative will focus on engaging K-5 students and prioritize cross-curricular integration and computer science resources.

Successful applications will:

- Identify an area of need or current challenge for educators and/or out-of-school-time professionals.
- Describe how the proposal will impact K-5 students.
- Demonstrate capacity to lead the work.
- Include a complete budget and clearly articulate alignment to proposed activities.
- Demonstrate alignment to current South Dakota Science standards, South Dakota Education Technology standards, Computer Science standards, and/or the cross-curricular integration of these standards with the South Dakota Mathematics standards, Engineering practices, or other current South Dakota content standards.
- Provide a professional learning plan to support classroom teachers, support staff, out-of-school-time program staff, and administrators to ensure implementation with fidelity.
- Demonstrate program sustainability following the scope of the funding.
- Include a plan for disseminating K-5 STEM programming, materials and resources regionally or statewide.

These grants are being funded with dollars available to DOE through the American Rescue Plan (ARP).

Eligibility

- Applicants must be K-12 public school districts, educational cooperatives, or non-profit community-based organizations in South Dakota
 - A community-based organization is a public or private non-profit organization of demonstrated effectiveness that provides educational or related services to individuals in the community.
- One application per K-12 public school district, educational cooperative, or non-profit community-based organization.

Awards

DOE intends to fund grants of no less than \$5,000 and up to a total of \$200,000 per applicant. The amount awarded will depend on the demonstrated need, quality of the proposal, and alignment to the purpose of the K-5 STEM Education Grant initiative. Award decisions made by the review committee are final.

Award notifications will be made around Nov. 1, 2022. Projects may begin upon award announcement, and funds must be obligated prior to Aug. 31, 2023. Projects must be completed by Oct. 30, 2023.

Allowable Use of Funds

K-5 STEM Education Grants may support:

- **Creation or expansion** of K-5 STEM programming, materials and resources aligned to current
 - South Dakota Science standards, South Dakota Education Technology standards, or Computer Science standards, and/or
 - Cross-curricular integration of the above standards with the South Dakota Mathematics standards, Engineering practices, or other current South Dakota academic content standards.
- **Purchasing** educational equipment needed for effective creation or expansion of K-5 STEM materials, resources and activities aligned to the project.
- **Purchasing** educational technology needed for effective creation or expansion of K-5 STEM materials, resources and activities aligned to the project.
- **Development** of a professional learning plan to support classroom teachers, support staff, out-of-school-time program staff, and administrators to ensure implementation with fidelity.
- **Travel costs** for personnel directly related to the **creation or expansion** of K-5 STEM programming, materials, and resources **and development** of a professional learning plan.
- **Contractual services** directly related to the **creation or expansion** of K-5 STEM materials and resources **and development** of a professional learning plan.
- **Personnel services** directly related to the **creation or expansion** of K-5 STEM materials and resources **and development** of a professional learning plan. Stipends, additional duty pay.
- **Indirect costs**, general and administrative expenses.

Grant funds cannot be used for:

- Capital investments
- Expenditures made prior to November 2022
- Purchases that become the property of any individual or organization other than the eligible recipient
- Purchases or services beyond the project outcomes or activities

Submission Timeline

- Grant announced and applications released - Aug. 22, 2022
- Applications due - On or before Oct. 3, 2022
- Awards announced - Approximately Nov. 1, 2022

Proposals must be electronically submitted, as a single PDF, via attachment to stephanie.higdon@state.sd.us on or before **Oct. 3, 2022**.

Applications that do not comply with deadline requirements will not be considered.

Contact

Direct questions to Stephanie Higdon at stephanie.higdon@state.sd.us or (605) 295-8190.