

November 1, 2024

Dear Round Rock ISD Educators and Administrators,

On behalf of the Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation, we invite you to apply for a 2025-2026 Excellence in Education Grant. During the 2025-2026 school year, the Foundation will support approximately **\$120,000** in innovative programs!

The Excellence in Education Grant application can be found online in SmarterSelect and the Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation website: <https://www.rrisdeducationfoundation.org/programs/#excellence-in-education-grants>. Once your account is set up in SmarterSelect, you will be able to make modifications to your grant application until submission. The deadline to submit is **June 9, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.**

- **Deadline for applications is June 9, 2025 (11:59pm)**
- **Open to all full-time Round Rock ISD Staff**
- **Winners notified in August 2025**
- **Maximum amount for grant request is \$5,000**
- **Grant may be awarded at partial amount requested**
- **If selected, grant winners must provide a minimum of (5) pictures and/or (2) minute video of the grant in action as well as (1) paragraph (100 words) explaining how the grant impacted students/department/staff.**

Grants will be awarded for **grade-level, campus, multi-campus, department, or district projects only.** *(Grant applications for individual classroom projects, furniture, chrome books, computers, bus transportation, iPads, tablets, or staff needs/salary will NOT be accepted).* Please see below for grant ideas:

- **Equity program/materials/speaker**
- **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)**
- **Curriculum/curriculum development**
- **Service learning**
- **Supplies/books**
- **Software supporting existing or new technology**

The evaluators will be looking for grant requests that bring innovation to the classroom, supplies, books and other tools/equipment that make significant and positive impact on student achievement and learning.

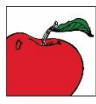
Warm Regards,



Marianne D. Reap
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Application Guidelines for 2025-2026 School Year

Purpose: The Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation created the Excellence in Education Grant program to help provide educator groups and campuses with the resources and tools they need to most significantly impact student achievement.

Eligibility:

- To be eligible for this funding, you must be a full-time Round Rock ISD staff member, and your project must directly address:
 - a specific Round Rock ISD goal set forth by the Board of Trustees, or
 - a specific campus goal listed in the Campus Improvement Plan
- Applications will be accepted from:
 - a group of teachers at a campus (e.g. grade level team or an integrated team)
 - an entire campus
 - a group of teachers or administrators from multiple campuses
 - a central administrator (departments)
- Funds will be granted for one year only. For this grant period, the project must be implemented in the 2025-2026 school year and evaluated according to dates listed on application.
- Applications must adhere to district purchasing policies. Within the grant you must be able to check off that you have verification of approval from your Principal, Bookkeeper, and Instructional Technology Specialist to verify use of contracted vendor, prices and technology that the district will support.
- If software licenses are a part of the grant application, they must be on the District ITS approved list.
- Meals for an event must be less than 40% of the requested budget.

Grants will **NOT** be awarded for:

- Individual classroom projects
- Incomplete applications or those that do not adhere to the format guidelines
- Grants will **NOT** support:
 - **flexible learning furniture**
 - **computers/laptops (includes iPads and chrome books)**
 - **salaries (including substitute teacher pay)**
 - **staff development (registration fees, lodging, food, travel)**
 - **bus transportation for students and staff (including bus rental and bus driver)**
- Costs and items that may be available through district, state or federal funding
- Requests which exceed the stated dollar limit

All vendors listed in requests **must be on the approved Round Rock ISD vendor list.*

Format Guidelines:

- Your application must be submitted electronically via SmarterSelect. Application detail can be saved by clicking the **SAVE button** at the bottom of the SmarterSelect application page.

Award of Funds:

- Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded.
- The size and number of awards will be determined by the amount of funds allocated by the Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation.
- Each eligible application will be reviewed by a group of evaluators representing the Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation and Round Rock ISD. After reviewing the applications, the grant review committee will determine whether to fully fund, partially fund, or deny funds for each project.
- All items purchased shall become property of Round Rock ISD to be utilized at the campus or department for which it was originally awarded and designated to.
- Funds must be utilized no later than **March 13, 2026** and projects must be completed by **May 15, 2026**. Remaining funds will return to the Foundation to assist other campuses. Awards **may not** be rolled over for a future year.

Reporting and Evaluation (Grants in Action):

- Minimum of (5) pictures and/or 2-minute video of your grant in action
- One (1) paragraph (100 words) explaining how your grant impacted your students/department/staff.

Winners will be notified in August 2025

If you have questions or need assistance, please call Emily Butler at 512-464-5600 or email at Emily_Butler@rriseducationfoundation.org.

IMPORTANT DATES:

2025

June 9th: Applications DUE

August: Recipients notified

2026

March 13th: Funds must be utilized (unless previously approved)

March 27th: Project receipts due on or before this date to

Karen Geissinger at Karen_Geissinger@roundrockisd.org

April 17th: Final Photos/video* due to Foundation on or before this date to

Emily Butler at Emily_Butler@rriseducationfoundation.org

May 15th: Projects must be completed

***Grants in Action:**

Minimum of (5) pictures and/or 2-minute video of your grant in action and
One (1) paragraph (100 words) explaining how your grant impacted your
students/department/staff.

Questions, contact Emily_Butler@rriseducationfoundation.org or 512-464-5600