

Access to Achievement Education Foundation Grant Application for Schools or Education Programs

Foundation mission:

The mission of Access to Achievement Education Foundation is to enhance knowledge and academic success among low-income and under-represented minority students primarily via partnerships with schools and educational programs. The goal is to provide funding for unmet educational needs, often unavailable from traditional sources of financial assistance for higher education. The focus is on reaching and providing support to groups of students often overlooked in funding initiatives—motivated students who show academic promise but are not necessarily recognized as the most accomplished students. By supporting the educational needs of such students, the Foundation increases the number of students in the educational pipeline and helps create a cadre of future professionals who will help meet the next generation of America's workforce needs.

Schools or education programs eligible for funding:

The following schools or educational programs are eligible for funding:

- Schools that serve low-income and under-represented ethnic minority students, invited by the Foundation to be partners.
- Educational programs that serve low-income and under-represented ethnic minority students, invited by the Foundation to be partners.

Types of resources funded:

- Educational workshops or materials for students (e.g., SAT, ACT, GRE preparation, test taking strategies, college admissions/financial aid, college essays), career exploration, life skills.
- Learning materials or supplies to enhance learning (e.g., inquiry-based science education kits, interactive algebra computer software).
- Career fairs or workshops for parents and students to learn about careers.
- Learning specialists or teachers for students needing academic remediation (e.g., students having difficulty in an organized academic program, English language skills).
- College campus tours for students to experience college life and meet with admissions officers.
- Field trips to technology, science, or art centers to foster experiential learning.
- Travel expenses for educational experiences (e.g., gas cards for attending educational conferences; fees to participate in competitions including math, science, debate, music, language arts).
- Computers, technology/software, and other supplies to support academic work.
- College fees and books not covered by student scholarships or loans.
- Career or job-based learning programs (e.g., fees for internships, job shadowing).

Priority geographic areas:

The priority geographic areas for funding are Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties in California, with additional consideration given to Northern and Central California counties with programs, schools and/or teachers serving students from rural and inner city areas. Several existing partner schools in other geographic areas will continue to be funded given adherence to funding criteria.

Funding limits:

Funding is limited to approximately \$5,000 - \$10,000 per school or educational program per year with possible renewal of funding on an annual basis. Funding can be for any academic discipline including the life sciences, mathematics, technology, social sciences and humanities.

Application process:

Note: Applications will only be accepted from schools or education programs invited by the Access to Achievement Education Foundation (solicited proposals).

Priority will be given to schools and programs that meet the following criteria:

- Located in Northern or Central California.
- Serve low-income and/or underrepresented ethnic minority students.
- Offer activities and/or programs that enhance success in higher education.
- Provide experiential, individualized and participatory educational activities.
- Provide direct interaction with role models –professionals, college students.
- Demonstrate effectiveness.
- Develop activities/programs that can be sustained, at least in part, after initial funding.

The Foundation will make a site visit to schools or educational programs that have been invited for funding and have indicated interest. At this time, possible activities that might be funded will be discussed. A grant proposal will then be submitted.

The grant proposal should be no more than 5 pages in length and should describe:

- 1) Name and address of school or educational program.
- 2) Name, position, email, phone of primary contact (principal, executive director).
- 3) Names, positions, emails and phones of selection committee.
- 4) Brief description of student population, ethnic and income background, educational needs.
- 5) The program or activities for which the funding is being requested, why they are needed, who will benefit, and estimated budget for each activity.
- 6) The anticipated results of the activities, how the activities will be evaluated, what changes might occur as a result of the new activities.
- 7) How the school or educational program will try to leverage local resources (e.g., from high schools, colleges/universities, hospitals/clinics, and/or businesses to augment activities.
- 8) How activities/programs will be sustained after initial funding.

Progress reports:

During the year, the Foundation representative(s) will interact with the partner school or educational program to discuss progress, changes in initial plans, new activities that might be funded, and possible resources that can be leveraged. A final report will be due before the end of the school year. It should include:

- How funds were spent—types of programs and activities, and support for individual students.
- Number of students reached.
- Degree to which funding reached target students (low-income and under-represented students).
- How funds were enhanced and leveraged by other resources.
- How activities can be sustained on a long-term basis.
- Difference funding made in students' lives (e.g., enhanced grades; college application fee paid for private university and student was admitted; inquiry-based science kit experiment motivated student to take a honors biology course).

Prepared by:

Marilyn A. Winkleby, Ph.D., MPH
President and CEO, Access to Achievement Education Foundation
Email: winkleby@stanford.edu
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