2020-21 STEM Impact Grant
Application Fact Sheet

STEM Partnership Impact Grants, funded by the Duke Energy Foundation, will be awarded to fund opportunities for students to learn the application of STEM concepts through problem-based learning activities conducted with business partners.

Eligibility

• Any traditional Orange County Public Schools science, technology, engineering, and/or math classroom teacher (Grades 4-12 ONLY) may apply.
• Only ONE Duke Energy STEM Partnership Application OR Duke Energy Math-Science-Energy Education application per teacher and/or teaching team will be considered. Please plan your grant request accordingly.
• Pre-K – 3rd grade and charter schools are NOT eligible to apply per funder requirements.

Project Focus

• All grant awards must be used for the purchase of project supplies, equipment, and/or software for program implementation.
• Project must take place between January 25, 2021 and April 26, 2021 before, during, and/or after school.
• STEM Partnership Grants target projects that include partnerships with local businesses where students are solving a problem. Also eligible are robotic or other STEM clubs that happen before, after, or during school (business partner needed for clubs, too).
• Projects should include a real-world problem/challenge that mimics tasks/practices of STEM professionals, hands-on learning opportunities, and a scientific discovery process.
• Technology should be appropriately incorporated into the project.
• Preference will be given to projects that feature before- or after-school activities.

Grant Amounts Available

• Fourth – 12th Grade: up to $5,000

Grant Will NOT Cover

• Honoraria, salaries, stipends, or substitute teachers
• Field trips or transportation
• Awards, incentives, t-shirts, food (unless part of an experiment)
• Programs that are state-mandated or existing programs funded by another organization
• Replication of a grant awarded in a prior academic year to the same grantee
• Maintenance of a grant awarded in a prior academic year to the same grantee

Application Requirements

• All applications must be submitted via the online grant portal.
• All applications must be approved by the principal.
• Project MUST be done in conjunction with a business partner.
  o An identified business partner must provide a minimum of ten on-site contact hours working with students and/or teachers.
  o This identified business partner must be listed in the application.
• Anonymity - Do NOT mention names (school, student, mascot, school newspaper, or personnel) unless specifically asked.
Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>August 7, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award Notification by</td>
<td>November 1, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spend Funds Deadline</td>
<td>January 11, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submit Expense Report</td>
<td>January 25, 2021</td>
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<td>Unspent Funds Returned</td>
<td>January 25, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Evaluation Due</td>
<td>April 26, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>PowerPoint and/or Video Due</td>
<td>April 26, 2021</td>
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If you are unable to meet the key dates for spending and reporting, please do NOT apply. Unspent funds must be returned to the Foundation by January 25, 2021 so those funds can be redistributed.

Evaluation Process

Each application will be reviewed, evaluated and scored by a panel of three community volunteers. Most volunteers are not educators and will not be familiar with acronyms and/or curricular areas. It is in your best interest to minimize education jargon. Volunteers will evaluate according to the criteria listed in the rubric and answers provided by applicant(s).

Funding Process

Checks are payable to the grantee's school. Amount granted may be different from budget request.

Other Pertinent Information

- Each teacher may submit only ONE Duke Energy MSE or Duke Energy STEM Partnership Impact Grant application as a LEAD teacher and may be a team member on ONE additional application in either of these categories. Plan your request accordingly as only one will be judged.
- Computer/Device guidelines:
  - Need for device(s) **MUST** be established and qualified.
  - Device(s) **MUST** be approved by your school’s tech coordinator. ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED!
  - Device(s) **MUST** be quoted and purchased through iBuy. Failure to comply with these regulations will result in denial of grant request. Your school bookkeeper can provide approved vendor list.
- Supplies, materials and equipment purchased with grant funds do not become the personal property of the grantee; however, supplies, materials and equipment can travel from school to school with the grantee. Upon resignation or retirement, the supplies, and/or materials become the property of the OCPS school where last held.
  - **Exception:** When the equipment is listed as a school asset.
- Any funds not used and/or accounted for **MUST** be returned to the Foundation along with your Expense Summary due January 25, 2021.
- All grant winners must report the results of their projects and provide meaningful information on the impact of the project (improvements in student knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes towards STEM education and career fields, evaluation methods, business partner success, etc.)

Grantee Responsibility

- You **MUST** upload your signed contract to assigned Google drive.
- You **MUST** expend grant funds NO earlier than receipt of your grant funds and no later than January 11, 2021.
- You **MUST** submit a Final Evaluation Report and PowerPoint presentation and/or video presentation by April 26, 2021.