

AIAA Foundation Classroom Grant Guidelines

The AIAA believes that one of the most significant means to inspire and advance the future of Aerospace is to fund grants to meet the unmet and unfunded educational need of students. This program promotes aerospace education activities in classrooms from kindergarten through twelfth grades. The program encourages development of innovative aerospace activities within the prescribed curriculum.

Grant Guidelines

- A clear connection to Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM) with an emphasis on **Aerospace** must be made in the grant proposal.
- Teachers must be current AIAA Educator Associate members actively engaged in kindergarten through twelfth grade classroom education prior to receiving this grant.
- An Educator Associate may apply for up to \$250 of grant funding per year.
- The following are required:
 - a full one-page synopsis of project including:
 - How the project relates to the AIAA mission and aerospace in general
 - Lesson plan and how the project relates to standards either within the state or federal standards if available
 - How the funds are to be used
 - The number of students that will be included in activities, **minimum 25 students required** (include 1, 2, and 5 year visions)
 - Itemized price list of the items proposed for purchase
- Each school is limited to up to 2 grants per calendar year.
- Grants will be considered 2 times per year.
- Grants will require approximately one month to be reviewed.
- Upon approval of the grant, a letter of commitment including a grant acceptance form will be sent to the teacher. Funds will be distributed upon AIAA receipt of the grant acceptance form. A check will be mailed to the address specified on the acceptance form.
- Funds must be spent on the items proposed on the original application.
- A calculation of the total number of students who will benefit over the full course of use should be made (this can be several years depending on the life time of the equipment).

Note to Home Schools: Due to funding limitations, individual home school proposals cannot be considered. However, proposal requests from home school groups or clubs of 25 or more students will be considered.

Funds will be considered for the following materials needed to promote your activity:

- Aerospace Technology
- Biological and Physical Research
- Earth Science
- Human Exploration and Development
- Space Science
- Classroom math or science demonstration kits
- Classroom science supplies
- K-12 Math and Science software
- Math manipulative materials
- Supplies for making flying objects
- Supplies for robotics programs

Funds WILL NOT be considered for the following:

- Books intended for school-wide use
- Ancillary equipment such as: PCs, printers, computer scanners, SMART boards and other hardware
- Audio Visual equipment including recording equipment and digital cameras
- Registration fees for competitions
- Travel associated with field trips or competitions
- T-shirts or promotional materials for competitions
- Teacher Workshop fees
- Fees for Museums, Planetariums and simulation events

LEGO GRANTS: *Grants will be considered for up to \$250 per team for participation in robotics competitions. The money must be used for “parts” and not for admission registration fees or t-shirts. The AIAA Foundation must be acknowledged as a team sponsor.*

Priority will be given to projects that reach the greatest number of students over many years.

Classroom Grant Evaluation Criteria

The project description is clear and complete (25 points)

The main body of the proposal should be a clear statement of the lesson plan and objectives that will be supported by resources purchased with this grant. Consideration will be given to the number of students impacted by this proposal. The description must clearly detail impact on enhancing student learning of STEM principles.

The project has a clear connection to aerospace (25 points)

The proposal must describe how the lesson plans enhance student awareness of aerospace commensurate with grade level. For example, an elementary school program should at least be tied into learning science, whereas a high school program should demonstrate clear ties to aerospace applications.

The proposal clearly articulates the educational goals to be accomplished (15 points)

The proposal must list those goals which the grant funding will accomplish. These goals should focus on inspiring student interest in aerospace. The goals should be realistic

Originality (10 points)

The proposal describes an original activity. For example, multiple entries from the same school will carry less weight if they are all for the same activity.

Repeatability (10 points)

The proposal describes an activity that can be continued or repeated in the future. Details include the number of students impacted by the lesson each year and reusability of materials.

The budget is clearly outlined, justifies the amount requested and includes a description of other sources of support for this project. (15 points)

Each proposal must include a budget that documents and justifies the amounts requested and sources of material. The budget request should be realistic for the activity and reflect the goals of the activity. Other sources of institutional support are clearly articulated and specific.