



Innovative Teacher Mini-Grant Program Fall 2017

Overview: The [Turning Foundation](#) in collaboration with [The Raymond John Wean Foundation](#) is announcing a new round of Innovative Teacher Mini-Grants for 2017. Up to \$50,000 in grant awards will be available to fund projects in a four county area (Ashtabula, Columbiana, Trumbull and Mahoning counties) with a special focus on Warren and Youngstown City Schools. There will be two tiers of funding for the 2017 round of grants. Priority will be given to proposals that include school and/or community-based partnerships. Larger collaborative efforts including multiple teachers and community stakeholders can apply for one of three available \$5,000 awards. Individual teachers can apply for up to eighteen available \$2,000 awards to support efforts to improve outcomes in PK-12 classrooms. Selection priorities in the application process include projects that:

- Connect creative and innovative practice to student achievement and school improvement
- Develop partnerships between schools and/or classrooms, and/or between classrooms and business/industry and community partners

Eastern Ohio Education Partnership Alignment: The grant process will continue to align with the four established goal areas for the [Eastern Ohio Education Partnership](#). EOEP is a network of community leaders representing education, business, faith-based, nonprofit, philanthropic and social sectors committed to providing every child in Eastern Ohio with a quality education. EOEP has established four specific goal areas for tracking that include:

- Kindergarten Readiness
- 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency
- 8th Grade Math Proficiency
- Postsecondary/Career Readiness

Grant Application Process: The application process requires teachers to focus on a few specific goal areas - while promoting the opportunity to be creative and innovative.

- There must be a connection to outcomes that support one of the four major goal areas established by EOEP
- There must be a sign-off from a building administrator in support of the effort described in the proposal
- The proposal must have an evaluation component measuring specific outcomes that are connected to one of the four major goal areas
- Proposals that are able to exhibit partnerships and collaboration either with other educators and/or with community partners will be given additional points in the grant scoring process

Program Timeline: This grant cycle is supporting activities during the 2017-18 school year. The duration of each winning grant project will be for the remainder of the school year, but the impact must be sustainable and ongoing. Following is the proposed program timeline:

- Application Available – September 8, 2017
- Grant applications due – October 20, 2017 – received by 4:30 pm
- Recipients will be notified by November 3, 2017
- Grant evaluations/program updates due by June 30, 2018

The Innovative Teacher Mini-Grant Program is designed to focus resources on supporting the development of innovative classroom practices in local schools while promoting collaboration and outreach. It is also designed to align resources in a way that focuses measurement and impact on four specific goal areas being addressed in our region by the Eastern Ohio Education Partnership. It is anticipated that aligning resources and identifying best practices around these four goal areas will begin to have major impact on educational outcomes in the region.

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