



# Federally Impacted Schools Educational Foundation

## 2024 GOOD IDEA GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

FISEF Good Idea Grants support federally impacted PreK-12 schools and educators in implementing innovative efforts to improve student achievement through academics, curriculum and social wellness. Grants up to **\$5,000** will be awarded to support **NAFIS-member school districts** in enhancing the existing school program in one or more of the three target areas (academics, curriculum and social wellness) while accomplishing the three “Es” – exciting, engaging and educating students.

Highest priority is given to projects that:

- Provide students the opportunity to grow and become creative, innovative and critical thinkers.
- Allow students to apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations.
- Enhance regular school activity or curriculum.
- Can be completed in the time allotted with the resources available.

All proposals meeting grant requirements will be considered, with preference given to those that:

- **Impact student growth** and learning on academic and/or nonacademic measures.
- **Clearly articulate the need the project meets**, presenting evidence showing that the need exists.
- **Take an innovative approach** to addressing the identified need(s) in terms of materials, process and/or activities.
- **Prioritize student engagement** over technology hardware, though requests for technology (laptops, iPads, Kindles, etc.) will be considered IF integrated into a project plan tied to one of the three issue areas.
- **Emphasize collaboration**, involving the local community (for example, parents/guardians, local businesses or government agencies, another school or district or nonprofit organizations) or engaging more than one cross-section of the school community (for example, kindergarteners working with fourth graders).
- **Are sustainable**, with highest priority given to projects that will continue after the grant year and/or those that can be replicated in other classrooms, schools or districts.

Grants WILL NOT be considered for travel, in-service training, consultants and substitutes, awards, incentives, parties, food, clothing or construction or facilities projects.

### Grant evaluation:

- **Mid-Year Reflection:** Grantees must participate in a mid-year reflection call in fall 2025.
- **Video:** Grantees must create a short (approximately 2 minute) video describing the funded project and demonstrating it was conducted. The video, due February 20, 2026, will be shown at the 2026 National Association of Federally Impacted Schools Spring Conference and promoted on the NAFIS website and social media platforms. A project spokesperson is encouraged (not required) to introduce the video.

### Additional information:

- Grant applications should be a maximum of six pages, inclusive of the application form (pages 3-4 of this packet).
- Submissions must be signed by the school district superintendent or a school district designee.
- An individual may only serve as the primary contact for one grant application in a grant year.
- Primary contacts who have been awarded a Good Idea Grant will not be awarded a grant in the next grant cycle; however, another in their school district may be awarded a grant.
- Projects must be completed, with funds expended and accounted for, no later than June 30, 2026.
- Applications must be received by December 15, 2024.

*The Federally Impacted Schools Educational Foundation (FISEF), established in 2000 by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS), provides support to federally impacted public school districts in the United States. Federally impacted school districts are those located on or near nontaxable Federal property—including military installations; Indian Trust, Treaty and Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act lands; Federal low-income housing facilities; national parks; and other Federal buildings and property. These school districts receive Impact Aid, a Federal education program that reimburses school districts for the lost local revenue and additional costs associated with the presence of Federal property. Learn more at <https://www.nafisdc.org/fisef/>.*

# 2024 GOOD IDEA GRANT APPLICATION RUBRIC

(COMPLETED BY GRANTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN SCORING. ONLY NAFIS MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING ARE ELIGIBLE.)

Rate on scale of 0-2	0	1	2
<b>Mission Statement:</b> Clear, concise statement tying the project to a desired impact on students (academic, social, physical health or other).			

Rate on scale of 1-5	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Scope of Work:</b> Enhances the regular curriculum and existing activities, providing the opportunity for students to grow and become innovative thinkers. Appropriate given time and fiscal constraints.					
<b>Learning Standards:</b> Project’s impact is specific, measurable and attainable.					
<b>Needs Assessment:</b> Meets clearly identified need in academics, curriculum or social wellness. Proposal includes measures of success.					
<b>Innovation:</b> Includes a new/unique approach to addressing the identified need in terms of materials, process or activities, allowing students to access new-to-them opportunities.					
<b>Student Engagement:</b> Provides students the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning; dive deep into areas of interest; and/or participate in a meaningful way in the school or greater community.					
<b>Collaboration:</b> Partners with members of the local community (for example, parents/guardians, businesses, other schools or non-profits), or engages more than one cross-section of the school community (for example, 1 <sup>st</sup> graders working with 4 <sup>th</sup> graders).					
<b>Sustainability:</b> Cost-effective and likely to continue after the year of implementation (including with additional support from other funders). Can be replicated in other classrooms, schools and districts.					
<b>Total per Column</b>					

<p style="margin: 0;"><b>Maximum Possible Score:</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><b>37</b></p>
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<p style="margin: 0; color: red;"><b>Application Score:</b></p>
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# 2024 GOOD IDEA GRANT APPLICATION

Primary Contact: First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Position at School: \_\_\_\_\_ # Years as in Education (Teacher/Principal/Counselor/etc): \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

District Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

If proposal is a team project, list names of team members and their positions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. PROJECT TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

2. PARTICIPANTS: # of Students \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Levels: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject or Focus Area: \_\_\_\_\_

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Please use separate sheet to address the following items)

a. **Mission Statement:** In one sentence, state what you wish to accomplish.

b. **Scope of Work:** Provide a project description. Explain how it will excite, engage and educate students in an innovative way that enhances existing curriculum and activities. Include set deadlines to ensure the project produces the desired results in the time-frame needed. Be specific as to each of the three “Es.”

- Excite = Inspire
- Engage = Participate
- Educate = Critical Thinking

c. **Needs Assessment:** Identify the primary needs addressed by this project, sharing relevant data that makes clear why this project is so important in this context. Include measures of success that will indicate whether the project met the identified need(s).

d. **Learning Standards:** Describe the learning standards to which this project is aligned and a plan for how it will improve student achievement (note: enumerating specific state standards is not required; copy/pasting state standards is discouraged).

e. **Collaboration:** Identify other partners and stakeholders, explaining how they will engage in the effort and share goals, responsibilities and accountability for the project.

4. **Project Budget:** Include specific information about the quantity and types of items to be purchased, sources of supply and cost (see table) on a separate sheet in the format provided below.

Amount of request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Item Description	Store/Source	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal

OVERALL TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

To assist in the application review process, include any additional relevant information about the items being purchased.

# 2024 GOOD IDEA GRANT APPLICATION (cont.)

## Statement of Understanding

If awarded, grant funds must be used for developing and implementing the project as described in this application. Funds will be expended and accounted for, and the project described completed, no later than June 30, 2026.

## Grant Evaluation

- **Mid-Year Reflection:** A representative of FISEF will contact the applicant in fall 2025 to assess progress.
- **Video:** Grantees must create a short video describing the funded project. The video should be no more than three (3) minutes in length; describe the activity or project; and demonstrate how the activity or project was conducted. The video must be submitted by February 20, 2026, and will be shown at the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools Spring Conference. A spokesperson from the project is encouraged (not required) to attend the conference to introduce the video.

## Superintendent/

**District Designee Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Electronic signature is permitted)

Applications must be submitted electronically by email. Please attach the application as a PDF file.

**Applications must be received by 11:59pm ET on December 15, 2024.**

Applications should be submitted electronically to [anne@nafisd.org](mailto:anne@nafisd.org).

Questions regarding the application can be directed to Anne O'Brien, FISEF Director & NAFIS Director of Communications, at [anne@nafisd.org](mailto:anne@nafisd.org) or 202-624-3611.

## TIMELINE FOR GRANT AWARDS

<b>2023 NAFIS Fall Conference:</b>	Grant application period opens
<b>September 22 - December 15, 2024:</b>	Applications accepted
<b>December 15, 2024:</b>	Application period closes
<b>January 2, 2025:</b>	Grant reading begins
<b>Spring 2025:</b>	Awardees announced
<b>Fall 2025:</b>	Mid-year reflections
<b>February 20, 2026:</b>	Awardee evaluation videos due
<b>2026 NAFIS Spring Conference:</b>	Awardee evaluation videos presented