



Shaler Area Education Foundation Grant Application

What is the Shaler Area Education Foundation?

The Shaler Area Education Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the educational needs and curricular advancement of the students in the Shaler Area School District.

The Foundation is accepting requests to support current programming as well as to encourage innovative educational programming and equipment needs. These funds arise from fundraising events, grants and donations received by the Foundation.

What types of grants does the Shaler Area Education Foundation fund?

The Foundation invites requests for funds of up to \$1,500 that support our [mission and vision](#). Proposals that have been funded in the past have addressed the following needs:

1. New and innovative educational programs, which are unable to be funded through the school district's budget.
2. Scholarly travel and participation expenses for students, which are unable to be funded through the school district's budget.
3. Pilot projects that represent programs that can be replicated and used throughout the school district.
4. Professional development for teachers and staff that will enable skills, which will directly impact student learning.
5. Student projects such as materials for a competition.

What types of grants does the Shaler Area Education Foundation NOT fund?

1. Building improvements and enhancements.
2. Items not approved by your school principal.
3. School District budget line items.

Who may apply?

Any student, teacher or staff of the Shaler Area School District may apply.

How do I apply and what is required?

Complete the [online application form](#), which includes the signature of your principal acknowledging that the request is being submitted.

The application will require the following information:

1. Applicant Name, Phone, Role, School Building, and Principal Name/Email Address
2. Project Title, Begin/End Dates, Dollar Request, # of students to benefit in initial year
3. Project Goal & Origin, Description & Implementation, Impact & Reach, Measurable Outcomes & Assessment
4. Past funding if any, future funding plans if any, ongoing costs, and itemized budget

How long does it take?

The approval process requires about 6-8 weeks. Applications are reviewed by Shaler Area Administration before being considered by the Grant Committee and then the full Board at the monthly meeting, typically the second Monday of each month.

Application Tips

The most successful projects incorporate a way to serve students for multiple years.

Use the rubric.

Be as specific as possible.

Enter and itemize your project cost.

Shaler Area Education Foundation Grant Rubric

	Extraordinary/4	Compelling/3	Satisfactory/2	Marginal/1
Project Goal and Origin	Extraordinary opportunity for exemplary instruction, innovative curriculum, and/or expanded exposure to educational disciplines.	Strong opportunity for exemplary instruction, innovative curriculum, and/or expanded exposure to educational disciplines.	Some opportunity for improved instruction, innovative curriculum, and/or expanded exposure to educational disciplines.	No strong evidence of improved instruction, innovative curriculum, or expanded exposure to educational disciplines.
Description and Implementation	Complete and detailed implementation plan, including specifics on training, use, management, and/or collaboration.	Plan for implementation included, addressing some but not all of the following: training, use, management, and/or collaboration.	Partial or incomplete implementation plan; missing some detail. Requires further work.	No implementation plan, plan is not addressed in any detail, or plan is unrealistic.
Impact and Reach	Will reach and impact a significant number of students in initial and subsequent years.	Will reach and impact a substantial number of students in initial year OR will reach and impact a substantial population over multiple years	Will reach and impact a smaller number of students for a limited number of years.	Impact and reach are minimal or not clearly defined.
Measurable Outcomes and Assessment	Comprehensive plan for qualitative and/or quantitative evaluation of educational impact is provided, including methods to collect and analyze objective evidence and user feedback.	Generally clear plan for qualitative and/or quantitative evaluation of educational impact is outlined. Efforts are included to collect and analyze objective evidence and user feedback.	Evaluation plan for measuring educational impact is limited. Some indication that objective evidence and user feedback will be considered.	No clear description of how educational outcomes and impact will be measured.
Budget	Funding sources have been researched. Line items are clearly listed and priced; requested funds are in complete alignment with proposed work.	Items are listed and priced; requested funds are in alignment with proposed work.	Budget items are not clearly listed; it is not clear if requested funds are in complete alignment with proposed work.	Requested funds and listed items are not aligned with proposed work.
Mission and Vision (applies to the overall funding request)	Strongly supports Foundation's vision and mission.	Supports Foundation's vision and mission.	Some evidence of support of Foundation's vision and mission.	Loose alignment with Foundation's vision and mission.

This rubric is used to evaluate all applications for grants. It is also a tool that applicants can use as they develop their project proposals. Although the Grant Committee uses the rubric to make recommendations to the Board, other factors may also be considered including cost effectiveness relative to the size of the student population reached and evidence of effectiveness or feasibility.