

Program Overview

Student Teacher Mini Grants are designed to provide student teachers with the unique opportunity to test out new methodologies and innovative lesson ideas with their cooperating teachers in DC area classrooms. The program was created in 2007 by long-time American University supervisor, Lynne Brenner Ganek because of her dedication to the tradition of inspiring student teachers to create exciting learning experiences for their students. Lynne and her family's generosity have made it possible for American University's School of Education, Teaching & Health to offer these mini grants to innovative student teachers each semester.

The purpose of the program is to foster and support student teachers in the development of inventive classroom activities, lessons, projects, and experiments. Mini grants will be awarded to student teachers who promote academic excellence and design exciting learning experiences which meet curriculum standards.

Application Process

Mini grants up to \$500 are available to student teachers in the fall and spring semesters. A panel of educators will review applications.

FALL DATES:

- Applications due September 15
- Grants awarded on October 1

SPRING DATES:

- Applications due January 30
- Grants awarded February 15

Applications should be submitted to the Teacher Education Office – Gray Hall Room 111 or emailed to digiovanni@american.edu

Selection Criteria

Student teachers should develop mini grant projects that help them to creatively nurture the strengths and talents of the learners in their classrooms. Quality proposals are clear, concise and well written.

Applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Creativity and Innovation
- Enrichment to the curriculum
- Motivational impact to your students
- Benefit to students, school and community
- Effective use of funds
- Use of community resources
- Support of School of Education, Teaching & Health mission
 - Community, Diversity, Equity, Excellence
 - Reflection, Knowledge, Practice, Beliefs

Preference will be given to projects that include:

- Cross-curricular focus
- Innovative use of technology

The use of funds for food or transportation costs is discouraged.



Student Teacher Mini Grant Application

Your application should include the following information and should be no more than three pages. Please respond to each numbered section of the application.

STUDENT INFORMATION

1. Semester - Fall or Spring
2. Student Teacher Name and AU ID
3. Student Teacher Placement School and Grade Level
4. Signature of Cooperating Teacher (*Your cooperating teachers must be aware of your proposed project. We encourage you to develop your project in collaboration with your cooperating teacher*)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Summary of Project (brief summary of the overall project)
2. Proposed Activities (it is important to review the selection criteria and to address these criteria in your project. Please also include a proposed timeline for when your activities will take place):
3. Assessment / Evaluation (include plans for evaluating the successes and challenges of the project):

PROJECT BUDGET

Total Cost of Project _____

Budget (provide a budget for your project, including materials, supplies, equipment and listing quantity and unit costs. A sample budget is provided):

SAMPLE

ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
Sample item 1	25	\$5.00	\$125
Sample item 2	8	\$25	\$200
Sample item 3	4	\$30	\$120
SUB-TOTAL			\$445
*TAX (5% for MD, 5.75%% for DC, 5% for VA)			\$22.25
TOTAL			\$467.25

**Please do not forget to consider sales tax for your total items so that you do not unintentionally incur any personal costs.*

PROJECT COMPLETION: Grantees will be asked to write up a summary of the results of the project and asked to speak with new student teachers preparing applications.

Summary of Results

If awarded a grant, you are required to submit a final evaluation to the School of Education, Teaching, and Health before December 12, 2008. You must address the following areas in your evaluation.

1. Describe the results of your project. Make sure to discuss project successes as well as challenges. Include any data you collect about how the project impacted the students.
2. Explain how grant funds were used to implement your project. Please explain any changes you made to your budget.
3. Discuss how your grant enriched the curriculum and helped to motivate students.
4. Reflect on the benefits of your grant to your students, school, and community. Include a discussion about how your project could be or is going to be replicated or continued.
5. Explain how your grant supported the School of Education, Teaching & Health mission's commitment to Community, Diversity, Equity, and Excellence.

Please submit your final evaluation electronically before December 12, 2008 to the following individuals.

Karen DiGiovanni: digiovanni@american.edu

Lynne Brenner Ganek: lganek@aol.com