SPLENDORA EDUCATION FOUNDATION EDUCATOR GRANT INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES 2025-2026

The Splendora ISD Education Foundation (SEF) Grant Committee is pleased to open the 2025-2026 Splendora Educator Grant application process.

This packet includes instructions and guidelines. Please follow all directions to ensure your request is considered.

Important Dates:

August 20, 2025 - Grant Window Opens
September 26, 2025 - Grants Due 5 pm via email
October 1, 2025 - Grant Grading
October 8, 2025 - Present Grants to SEF Board for approval
October 20, 2025 - Present Grant Amounts to SISD Board of Trustees
Late October/early November - All applicants will be notified of decisions

The Grant Selection Committee will comprise up to 12 members, including district representatives, SEF Board members, and community representatives. Applications will be blind-reviewed to ensure an objective score unbiased by individual or campus ties.

We understand teachers need more resources in our schools and classrooms. Our goal is to support an idea that will benefit your students. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Key at kkey@aplendoraisd.org.

GUIDELINES FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

PURPOSE

The Splendora Educator Grants are designed to provide students with experiences through innovative programs or projects that may be outside the scope of the existing district budget. The grants must enhance student academic performance and support the foundation and the district's mission, vision, and goals.

PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR GRANTS

Splendora educators who want to provide students with experiences that may be outside the scope of the existing district budget. This includes teams or individuals

employed by SISD in student instruction or related support services benefiting students. Educators are welcome to apply for multiple grants, though selection is not guaranteed for any submission.

ELIGIBLE PROPOSALS

Instructional approaches or projects designed to begin during the 2025-2026 school year (implemented in the second semester) that meet the selection criteria. Grants may fund instructional and classroom materials, parent involvement programs, or any activity or material supporting higher student achievement levels.

AWARDS OF FUNDS

Individual teachers will receive grants of up to \$3,000, and team-initiated programs or projects will receive grants of up to \$6,000. The number of awarded grants will depend on funds available from SEF.

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Alignment with Mission and Identified Needs

The extent to which the proposed project supports the vision, mission, and goals of Splendora ISD (<u>found here</u>) and the Splendora Education Foundation (<u>https://splendoraisdeducationfoundation.com/about-us/</u>). Priority will be given to proposals that clearly address a campus- or student-based need supported by data.

2. Focus on Student Academic Performance

The degree to which the project is designed to enhance student learning, achievement, or engagement in measurable ways.

3. Evaluation and Measurement

The inclusion of clear, effective evaluation methods to assess the project's success. This includes how outcomes will be measured and how data will be used to inform impact.

4. Innovation and Creativity

The degree to which the project presents a unique, creative, or forward-thinking approach to meeting educational objectives, incorporating best practices or new strategies.

5. Clarity and Logic of the Proposal

The overall coherence and completeness of the proposal, including:

- Clearly defined objectives
- Well-articulated procedures, methods, or activities
- Alignment between project goals, implementation methods, and evaluation tools

6. Justification for External Funding

The extent to which the project demonstrates a legitimate need for funding outside of existing district resources, including:

- A clear explanation of why district funds cannot support the project
- Evidence that the proposed project fills a gap in current resources
- Alignment with financial limitations within the district

SELECTION PROCESS

Application forms may be obtained online through the website.

Teacher-initiated applications must be reviewed by the Campus Leadership Team for congruence with campus programs and signed by the principal.

Completed applications are due via email to KKEY@SPLENDORAISD.ORG by 5 p.m. on September 26, 2025.

If recommended for approval, the "winning" grants are presented to the SEF Executive Board in summary form for review and formal approval.

Upon approval by the SEF Executive Board, the total amount awarded in grants is formally presented to the Splendora ISD School Board for official acceptance. All applicants will be notified of decisions.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Can I apply for multiple grants?

A: YES!

- Q: Why does the application say under the "Project Title do not include anything in this title that would identify the campus or applicant(s)" but then later in the application it says to list the applicants and campuses?
- A: To ensure an unbiased review process, it's essential that the project title does not include any identifying information about the applicant or campus. All personal and campus details provided later in the application will be withheld from the grant-grading committee.
- Q: Are there reporting requirements after receiving the grant?
- A. Yes, but they are super easy. All grant recipients are required to submit a brief report highlighting the impact of their project. This should include photos that showcase the grant in action, details on how the funds were used, and a summary of outcomes achieved. The report offers valuable insight into student engagement and project success. Please note: this report must be submitted before you are eligible to apply for future grants. A specific deadline for the report will be provided.