

## 2017 Education Plus! Grant Program

### Eligibility, Application Requirements & Selection Criteria

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Solano Community Foundation is accepting Education Plus! Grant applications for the 2016 Calendar year. Both the application cycle and eligible applicants have been expanded; SCF will now accept applications from February thru November. In addition, 501(c) (3) nonprofit organizations are now eligible grantees. Funding will be awarded to help support projects that exhibit the “Plus! Factor,” i.e., those that enhance learning, improve student achievement, and augment participants’ educational experience in unique and successful ways. Funding support is available for after-school and summer programs.

Solano Community Foundation is participating in a five-year effort with Rise Together Bay Area to cut the poverty rate in the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties by 50%. SCF is committed to addressing poverty and unemployment in Solano County at their root – education. By emphasizing programs that address the issues of grade-level reading skills and appropriate grade-level math placement in our award of Education Plus! grants, we are helping raise Solano County families out of poverty.

#### I. ELIGIBILITY & FUNDING FOCUS

- A. Teachers in Solano County and River Delta public schools (in Solano County) serving students in grades K – 12 are eligible to apply.
- B. Nonprofit Partnership Program (NPP) members that are IRS designated 501(c)(3) organizations serving Solano County residents, are eligible to apply.
- C. Funding requests must address one of these two specific issues:
  1. Grade-level Reading: work toward achieving grade-level reading at the third-grade, or work to maintain or improve reading skills at any level.
  2. Appropriate Grade-level Math Placement: work toward achieving appropriate placement at the ninth-grade level, or work to maintain or improve math skills at any level.
- D. Grant monies awarded to schools may not be used to pay for travel expenses (transportation, tolls, parking, etc.), school chaperone services, or meals.
- E. Grant monies awarded to nonprofits may not be used for fundraising or general operating expenses.

#### II. APPLICATION DEADLINE & NOTIFICATION

- A. Application forms must be typed and signed/authorized by the school principal or head of the nonprofit organization.
- B. Applications may be submitted via email to [grants@solanocf.org](mailto:grants@solanocf.org), by regular mail, or delivered in person.

- C. Each applicant will receive an email from SCF confirming receipt of their application.
- D. Applications received by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month will be reviewed and a decision made regarding consideration for funding. If the request is recommended for funding, it will be added to the next SCF monthly board meeting agenda for final approval.
- E. Grantee award letters and checks will be mailed to selected recipients within 10 days after each end-of-month board meeting.

### III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Only one application per teacher will be funded in one calendar year.
- B. Only one application per nonprofit organization will be funded in one calendar year.
- C. Incomplete or handwritten applications will not be considered.
- D. Identical applications submitted by two or more teachers from the same school for the same project (different classes) must clearly explain the unique purpose of each request.
- E. All applicants must provide a current email address and phone number.
- F. The project budget is a required application component; it must include a list of expense items and the amounts.
- G. If the project budget is greater than the grant amount requested, clearly explain how the grant funds will be used and how additional funding will be acquired.

### IV. SELECTION CRITERIA

The SCF Grants Committee will use the criteria shown below to select projects worthy of funding. Projects that clearly identify the education “Plus! Factor,” and include a high level of participant involvement, will receive strongest consideration. Requests must address specific learning goals and objectives for the participants. Funding will be awarded for requests that meet the following criteria:

- A. A direct alignment with the specific focus area chosen on the application form.
- B. Funding worthiness and the project’s purpose and goals are clearly identified.
- C. Project activities and level of participant involvement are both clearly described.
- D. An evaluation system (evidence-based) will be used to plan, record, measure and assess impact.
- E. The project budget is complete and directly related to the project purpose and activities.

### V. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS & PUBLICITY

Submission of a Grantee Report Form is required of all grant recipients. The report is due no later than *one year from the date of the award letter or when grant monies have been spent, whichever is sooner*. The report must include at least two digital photos of participants involved in project activities. Acceptance of an Ed Plus! grant implies consent for SCF’s use of project information, photos, and award results in media coverage. SCF’s funding support must appear in grantee publicity releases, in brochures, and in program materials, etc. The Grantee Report Form and the Media Release Form is available to download from the Ed Plus! program page on the SCF website.