Bruce Vento Science Educator Grant Application

Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Mission: Education Minnesota’s Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning: promoting vision, best practice and achievement

Established by his colleagues, friends, and staff, the Bruce Vento Science Educator Grant supports educators who teach science as part of their day and want to acquire and share new skills and knowledge; this grant may also fund equipment or materials needed in science classrooms. Congressman Vento believed in supporting students and teachers and highly valued his role as an educator in shaping his world-view. Applicants may request up to $1,500.

"Bruce never stopped being a teacher, and those of us who were privileged to know him have all been, at one time or another, his students. We have learned from his knowledge and leadership, and from his commitment to preserving our environment and lifting up those less fortunate. We have also been profoundly touched by his decency and genuine concern for others. He was a statesman and a wonderful person, and I will always be grateful for his warm friendship and wise counsel."

– President William Jefferson Clinton, Summer 2000

The Education Minnesota Foundation Board will not fund retroactive learning opportunities that have passed by the date grants will be awarded by, which is listed below.

Bruce Vento Science Educator Grants will be awarded twice per school year.

Deadline: ................................................................. 4 p.m., Dec. 4, 2020
Grants awarded by: .............................................. February 2021
Funds to be spent by: .............................................. October 2021

Signed and scanned applications in .pdf format can be emailed to foundation@edmn.org. Applicants may also apply online at: www.edmnfoundation.org. All applications are reviewed by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation—teachers and education support professionals who are members of Education Minnesota.
Questions to ask yourself before beginning the application process

If you are requesting professional development funds:

• Am I an active member of Education Minnesota?

• Will the professional development I am seeking help me improve my job performance?

• Will I be able to participate in the professional development opportunity and share what I learn with my colleagues?

If you are requesting funds for equipment or materials:

• Do I have all of the technology I would need to successfully carry out my proposal if I were awarded this grant?

• Have I made sure the equipment or materials I am requesting cannot be purchased by my principal, district, or local union?

If you answered “yes” to these questions and you did not request reimbursement of the $5 assessment to the Foundation, you should feel confident that the Foundation will give your project serious consideration.
Bruce Vento Science Educator Grant Application: Data Sheet

APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE THE DATA SHEET AND ADDRESS ALL NARRATIVE QUESTIONS. PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY ONE TYPE OF GRANT BELOW.

I am applying for a(n):

☐ Equipment or materials request  ☐ Professional development request

Applicant’s name: _____________________________________________________________

Grant title: _________________________________________________________________

Total amount requested: $____________________________________________________

Applicant’s title/assignment: ________________________________________________

Home address, city, state, ZIP: _______________________________________________

Mobile phone: ______________________________________________________________

School name: ______________________________________________________________

School address, city, state, ZIP: _______________________________________________

School phone: ______________________________________________________________

Email address: ______________________________________________________________

Team members (indicate which individuals are Education Minnesota members): _______________________

The Education Minnesota Foundation will only fund proposals that are the original work of the person submitting the grant request. Applicants are not permitted to submit the work of anyone else as their own. My signature below indicates that I am the author of this proposal and I have properly attributed authorship to the extent I have based this proposal on the work of others.

Signature: ___________________________________________________________________
ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE NO LATER THAN 4 P.M. ON THE DUE DATE.

Mail/email applications to:
Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
foundation@edmn.org – 800-652-9073

Apply online at: www.edmnfoundation.org

Note: Please expect a confirmation email within one week of submitting your application. If you do not hear back from the Foundation with a confirmation that your application was received, please email foundation@edmn.org with a request for confirmation of application received.

YOUR LOCAL/AFFILIATE PRESIDENT SHOULD COMPLETE THIS SECTION.

Local/affiliate or MSCF/UEA organization: ___________________________________________________________

Local/affiliate or MSCF/UEA president’s name (please print): ____________________________________________

President’s email: ________________________________________________________________________________

My signature below indicates that I am aware of this application and should this project be awarded grant funds, the local agrees to support the member. My signature also certifies that the applicant is an Education Minnesota member holding active membership status, and the local affiliate will act as fiscal agent for grant funds.

Signature of president: _____________________________________________________________________________

Date: ___________________________________________________________________________________________
Bruce Vento Science Educator Grant Application: Narrative

APPLICANTS MUST ADDRESS ALL NARRATIVE TOPICS AND COMPLETE THE DATA SHEET.

Please use double spacing, Times New Roman 12-point type on single-sided paper. Be sure to number and label your responses, and limit your narrative length to two pages or fewer.

Professional development request:

1. One-paragraph summary
Write a one-paragraph summary of your proposal and what you expect to accomplish.

2. Skills and knowledge
Professional Development Grants are given to help you improve your on-the-job skills and knowledge.
   a. What skills and knowledge do you want to acquire?
   b. How will increased skills and knowledge in this area help improve your work environment?

3. Learning opportunity
Bruce Vento Science Educator Professional Development Grants provide funds to assist educators who teach science as part of their day.
   a. Describe the learning opportunity you wish to pursue.
   b. Explain why you think it will meet your needs.
   c. Provide details of the learning opportunity—where and when will the learning take place?

4. Impact
Professional Development Grants are intended to have an impact on you, your colleagues, and students.
   a. Predict how your new skills and knowledge will impact your work environment.
   b. Predict how your new skills and knowledge will impact your job.

5. Budget
In a chart or table, list your budget expense items (e.g., conference registration, speaker fee, necessary materials) and the amount requested for each item. If your budget reflects a total amount over the maximum funding amount, please include in-kind or matching donations to help the board understand how the rest of your request will be funded.
Equipment or materials request:

1. One-paragraph summary
Write a one-paragraph summary of your proposal and what you expect to accomplish.

2. Equipment or materials
   a. What equipment or materials are you requesting?
   b. What do you need the equipment or materials for?

3. Student learning
How will having these pieces of equipment or materials improve student learning?

4. Reusability
Whenever possible, the equipment or materials requested must be reusable for future educators or students. Explain how you plan to use the materials in a way that will allow them to be reused.

5. Support from other resources
The Education Minnesota Foundation Board reviews equipment or materials requests under the assumption that the applicant has already exhausted other traditional avenues for financial support, such as reaching out to their principal, district, or local union. Explain the level of outreach you have done to prepare for this project, and be sure to include specifics if you have not been able to get support from traditional financial sources.

6. Budget
In a chart or table, list your budget expense items (equipment, supplies, ingredients, tools, etc.) and the amount requested for each item. If your budget reflects a total amount over the maximum funding amount, please include in-kind or matching donations to help the board understand how the rest of your request will be funded.

Your application will be reviewed only when it is considered “complete” – that is, all questions are answered, all documents mentioned above are attached, and a completed and signed data sheet is received. If all items are not received, your application will not be reviewed by the Foundation Board of Trustees.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE NO LATER THAN 4 P.M. ON THE DUE DATE.

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