

## **Some Grant Tips**

1. Read the requirements carefully.
2. The Teacher Grant Proposal section contains six questions with varying point values. Omission of any of them will cause you to forfeit those points.
3. Read each question carefully and review your answer to be sure you have answered it completely.

### **How is your project innovative? (25 points)**

1. “Innovative” is defined as “featuring new methods; advanced and *original*” and “*introducing new ideas; original and creative in thinking.*” If, for example, you simply want to add some iPads to your classroom for research purposes, that’s being done lots of places, so it’s not really innovative. You would need to explain what project/process, etc students will be doing that would be innovative and the iPads would play a role in doing so.
2. How do you know if it’s innovative? This is where your research comes in. Use your favorite search engine to see if someone is already doing it. If they are, the innovation comes from how you are being original and creative in applying it in your classroom.

### **How will it fit into your curriculum (include standards)? (10 points)**

1. Notice the word “include” in the above question. Don’t just list them. Be sure to include mention of the standards **and** a description of how the project integrates into your curriculum.
2. There is no “prize” for the most standards listed. Stress quality over quantity.

### **How will it encourage long-lasting change in your classroom, school or community? (20 points)**

1. Innovation is original and creative and produces change. What is your vision for how this will change?

### **How will technology be utilized? (20 points)**

1. Keep in mind the “What this funds” section in the grant description, which reads in part “These grants should fund initiatives that utilize technology in a new and innovative way ...” Remember that using technology in ways that are commonly used is not the goal

### **What evidence will you collect to show student gain? (10 points)**

1. There are many ways to show student gain. Be sure it fits in with the philosophy of your school,
2. Be sure it will be obvious to those not at your school that you expect project to increase student learning and you have a way to prove it.

### **How will participants share your project results with the community? (15 points)**

1. Your great work should not be kept a secret. The community needs to be part of celebration of success. This helps immensely when you want community support for future initiatives
2. Think “PR”. How can I make my students look good?