



# AIR & SPACE FORCES ASSOCIATION

## Educator Grants

The Air & Space Forces Association believes that one of the most significant means to affect student learning is to fund grants to meet the unmet and unfunded educational needs of students. Each school year, the Association awards grants of up to \$500 to worthy projects that significantly influence student learning.

AFA will accept grant applications from **September 1 – December 15**. The grant process is competitive in nature. A committee comprised of outside experts in the field of aerospace education will review all qualified grant applications and make recommendations on funding. Based upon the funding available, AFA will choose to invest in projects that best serve our nation's students and support AFA's mission.

The Educator Grant program promotes aerospace education activities in classrooms from kindergarten through twelfth grades. The program encourages development of innovative aerospace activities within the prescribed curriculum.

### Checklist

Your application may be revised and edited until the final submission deadline at 11:59 PM Eastern Time on **December 15**. Winners will be notified by late February.

- Visit <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/83864-Air-Force-Association> and log in or create a new account
- Start a new application on SmarterSelect by clicking "Apply"
- Step 1: Enter your application data
- Step 2: Provide project details and project budget information
- Step 3: Once you have answered all application questions, click "Submit"
- Step 4: Confirm your submission by clicking "OK"
- Print your application for your records

If you forget your password, click "reset password" to change it. If you forget your username, send an e-mail to [education@afa.org](mailto:education@afa.org) for help.

**\*\*\*\* Your spam filter might block our e-mails to you. Be sure to add [automated.email@smarterselect.com](mailto:automated.email@smarterselect.com) to your address book to receive important communications. \*\*\*\***

## Application Questions

### Step 3: Project Details

1. **Project Description** Provide a detailed description of the planned activity. Include importance of purpose, how the project relates to your school district's strategic educational plan, the content area the project will focus on and how the project connects to student achievement. Include a proposed timeline for the project.
2. **List of grade** or grades of students involved in your project
3. **Subject Area** Choose the area that best describes your project.
4. **Teaching Method** Describe the teaching methods you will use to implement your project and describe how and when you will implement your project.
5. **Outcomes and Evaluation** Describe the expected outcomes and evaluation methods you will use to measure your project's success. Be specific.
6. **How many students will be directly impacted by your project this year?** Describe how they will be impacted.
7. **How many other teachers in your school or district will benefit from your project?** Describe how they will benefit.
8. **Vision.** Describe your vision and plan for replicating or adapting your project within your school or district.

### Step 4: Project Budget

9. **Project Budget** List materials, equipment costs, etc. needed to implement your project. List each item separately. Provide a total amount for all expenses.
10. **Other Funding Sources** List other sources and amounts of institutional support for this project (past, present, and anticipated future). Indicate whether you have asked your principal or district to fund this project. If so, describe the response. If no, please explain.
11. **Additional Information** Please add any additional information you feel would assist us in our deliberations, such as school/district demographics, other grants received.

## Educator Grant Rules

### Policies

- All requests for funding must conform to the grant guidelines and submission instructions to be considered. Failure to complete any of the required information will result on the rejection of the proposal.
- Grants are judged on a competitive basis and may not be funded or may be only partially funded.
- Funds must be used on the proposed items. Funds must be used within six months of approval, or the funds will revert to the Association.
- The Educator Grant program promotes aerospace education activities in classrooms from kindergarten through twelfth grades.
- Grant recipients should include the Association in any publicity regarding their grant.
- Grant recipients will be expected to announce their grant to the parents of students participating, to the school faculty and in a school publication.
- Teachers are encouraged to send pictures of the project in use by the students as well as copies of any publicity involving the project and related activities.
- One grant per teacher, maximum of two teachers per school, will be considered under this program.
- Preference will be given to proposed activities that relate to aerospace science and technologies.
- Acceptable activities may include but are not limited to:
  - Classroom science or technology demonstration kits
  - Classroom science supplies
  - Science and technology software for K-12 use
  - Science manipulatives
  - Supplies for making flying objects
  - Supplies for robotic program
- Funds will not be considered for the following:
  - Registration fees for competitions
  - T-shirts, promotional items or awards
  - Teacher workshop fees
  - Activities that benefit less than 15 students
- A grant report must be submitted no later than six months from the date the grant is awarded. Grant fund expenditures are the responsibility of the grant winner and an itemized list of expenditures must be included in the final grant report. If not received within the time period, the applicant will not be eligible for future grants until a report is submitted and received by the Association.

- Grant applications must be completed and submitted online at <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/83864-Air-Force-Association>. Hardcopy or faxed applications will not be accepted.

**Announcement of Winners**

AFA will announce the winners by late February.

**Contact Us**

Air & Space Forces Association

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## Grant Evaluation Criteria

### **The project description is clear and complete. (0-25 points)**

The main body of the proposal should be a clear statement of the work to be undertaken and objectives for the period of the proposed work. It is important that the proposed activities be related to improving, advancing, or enriching student learning. The goals and objectives, and the plans and procedures for achieving them, should be well developed, worthwhile, and realistic.

### **The project directly supports and is aligned with the school districts strategic educational plan (instructional initiatives, strategic goals). (0-15 points)**

The proposal should be aligned with the district priorities, goals, and initiatives. The proposal should include specific references to the districts priorities/initiatives which it supports.

### **The proposal clearly articulates the relationship to student learning. The proposal enhances, enriches, and advances student learning. (0-15 points)**

The project should clearly indicate how the project will advance, improve, or enrich student learning. The results of the project should contribute to the knowledge base of activities that enhance student learning.

### **Teaching Method (0-10 points)**

Project is based on research and/or applies best practices in teaching and learning. Instructional procedures are specific and relate to purpose and objectives.

### **The plan to evaluate the success of the project and to measure the benefits to students is complete and appropriate. (0-15 points)**

A detailed evaluation plan appropriate to the scale of the project will determine how effectively the project has achieved its goals. Therefore, the project should provide an effective evaluation plan which reflects the proposed educational objectives and practices and is appropriate and adequate for the project's size and scope.

### **The plans to communicate the results of the project to other professionals are clear and appropriate. (0-10 points)**

The proposal should identify how the results of the project would be disseminated broadly to other faculty, administrators, and educators. Project had the capacity to be replicated in other classrooms.

### **The budget is clearly outlined, justifies the amount requested and includes a description of other sources of support for this project. (0-10 points)**

Each proposal must include a budget that documents and justifies the amounts requested. The budget request should be realistic for the project and reflect the goals of the project. Other sources of institutional support are clearly articulated and specific.

