CHS Foundation/National Agriculture in the Classroom
Grant Guidelines, Application

Thank you for your interest in applying for one of the 20 CHS Foundation/National Agriculture in the Classroom’s Classroom Grants. The $500 grants will be awarded to pre-kindergarten through 12th grade general education teachers whose innovative classroom projects use agricultural concepts to teach reading, writing, math, nutrition, science, and/or social studies. Agri-science teachers may apply for the grant, but they must demonstrate how the project being proposed will reach outside their agri-science classrooms to other classes in the same school or other schools, including elementary schools. The online application will become available on the National Agriculture in the Classroom’s website August 1. The deadline for grant proposals is September 15. Recipients will be notified by email in October or early November.

Grant Requirements:
The CHS Foundation Classroom Grant Program is designed to fund projects that will educate Pre-K-12 students about the importance of agriculture and allow teachers to use agricultural concepts to teach core subject areas. Those who receive one of the 20 grants will be required to use at least two lessons from the National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix on the National Agriculture in the Classroom website at www.agclassroom.org or from their state Agriculture in the Classroom program. In addition, grant proposals must demonstrate how they will involve a local farmer, rancher, or agriculture industry representative in the project. CHS Foundation will highlight the winning classroom grants at its annual meeting in December each year.

Timeline:
• Grant proposals must be submitted online beginning August 1.
• The deadline for proposals is September 15.
• Applicants will be notified via email in October or early November.
• Final report due to National Agriculture in the Classroom by June 30, 2023.

Eligible Applicants:
Certified, general education teachers who are employed by a school district or a private school, who engaged in classroom instruction at the pre-kindergarten through 12th grade level and who wish to use agricultural concepts to teach core subject areas and enhance students’ understanding of agriculture. Agri-science teachers may apply for the grant, but they must demonstrate how the project being proposed will reach outside their agri-science classrooms to other classes in the same school or other schools, including elementary schools.

Funding Guidelines:
• 15 $500 grants will be awarded.
Grant money can be used for classroom or schoolyard gardens. Because of food safety concerns, animal waste manure is not to be used on edible plants (fruits, vegetables, herbs) if a school garden is part of the project. Grant applicants will be asked to agree to follow safe handling guidelines for any compost used in a school garden that is part of this project to reduce the risk of plant and human disease-causing organisms. These organisms are killed when internal temperatures are maintained between 130-170 degrees F over a period of several days. Additional information about composting and national and state resources can be found on the U.S. Composting website at www.compostingcouncil.org.

Grant money for school gardens can be used to purchase the following items:
- Seeds (fruits and vegetables)
- Soil
- Plants (fruits and vegetables)
- Fertilizer
- Raised bed materials
- Greenhouse materials
- Hydroponics materials
- Irrigation/watering system materials

Grant money can be used for animal science projects involving embryology, aquaculture or ranch-related projects, field trips or farm tours.

Grant money cannot be used for salary or compensation.

Grant money cannot be used for clothing, promotional items, or giveaway items.

Grant check will be made payable to the school, not to an individual.

Grant checks not cashed within 60 days after receipt will become null and void.

Grant Requirements:
- Pre-K-12 students must be directly involved in project.
- Use of lessons from the National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix and/or state Agriculture in the Classroom programs must be described in the application and final report. Teachers will be asked to demonstrate the use of these lessons by completing a ‘Lesson Plan Reflection’ that describes the number of instructional hours and students involved, the type of teaching strategies used, additional activities presented and evidence that students understood the objectives of the lesson plan at the end of the project.
- A budget outline and timeline must be included with your application.
- A letter of support from a school administrator indicating support of the project is required.
- Some amount of in-kind or monetary contributions must be secured before receiving the grant.
- A final report is due to National Agriculture in the Classroom no later than June 30 each year. Please upload photos from the project into the final report form and signed copies of photo release forms for students appearing in the photos.

(COPY OF ONLINE APPLICATION)

CHS Classroom Grant Application

NOTE: It is expected that completing this form will take you between 30 minutes and 1 hour. You may NOT save your work and come back to this application- if you leave this page without submitting, your work will be lost. The application must be completed all at once.
You are encouraged to scroll below, peruse the questions, and collect the necessary info prior to completing the form below.

- I understand that an online final report is due no later than June 30. Photos and/or videos of the project and signed copies of photo release forms of students appearing in the photos and videos must be uploaded with the final report.
  - Yes

- I understand that because of food safety concerns, compost and/or animal waste is not to be used on edible plants (fruit, vegetables, herbs) if a school garden as part of the project.
  - Yes

- I agree to follow safe handling guidelines for any compost used in a school garden that is part of this project to reduce risk of plant and human-disease causing organisms. These organisms are killed when internal temperatures are maintained between 130–degree and 170–degree Fahrenheit over a period of several days. Additional information about composting and national and state resources can be found on the U.S. Composting website at www.compostingcouncil.org.
  - Yes

- I understand I must include in the grant application a letter of support from a school administrator giving permission to use school property to conduct the grant project and allowing for fiscal administration of the grant project. I will upload the letter of support as part of the online grant application.
  - Yes

- CHS Foundation Classroom Grant Title: *

- School name: *

- School mailing address: *
  
  Address
  Address Line 2
  City
  State / Province / Region
  Zip Code
  Country

- School physical address (if different from mailing address): *
  
  Street Address
  Address Line 2
• Project Director/Teacher’s Name: *

• Project Director/Teacher’s Cell Phone Number: *#### #### ####

• Project Director/Teacher’s Email Address: _______________

• Grade Level(s) CHS Classroom Grant project will reach. *
  □ Early Elementary (K-2nd grade)
  □ Upper Elementary (3-5th grade)
  □ Middle School (6-8th grade)
  □ High School (9-12th grade)

• Project Narrative (Limited to 500 words. Describe purpose, need for the project and goals of the project. *

• Timeline (Provide a detailed timeline for the CHS Foundation Classroom Grant project, describing how you will complete it by the end of the school year.): *

• Budget Narrative (Provide an itemized budget describing how CHS Foundation Classroom Grant funds will be spent and include all in-kind and/or monetary contributions for the project. *
• Detail the projected outcomes and measurable impacts you expect to achieve at the end of the CHS Foundation Classroom Grant project. Outcomes are changes in students’ understanding of agriculture. Measurable impacts are changes in students’ attitudes and behavior concerning agriculture. Describe how you will measure those outcomes and impacts from the beginning to the end of the project. *

• Explain how you will continue the CHS Foundation Classroom Grant project in the future without grant funds. *

• Describe how a farmer or agricultural representative will be involved in the CHS Foundation Classroom Grant project. *
• Describe up to five state or national educational standards, including the code, content area and description, that the CHS Foundation Classroom Grant project meets well. *

• List the names of the lessons you will use as part of the CHS Foundation Classroom Grant project from the National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix at www.agclassroom.org/teacher/matrix/ or from a state Agriculture in the Classroom state program website. Please include the name of the state AITC program if you are using resources from that program. *