

Rotary Club of Madison Excellence in Education Grants; Creating Bridges to Equity Guidelines
Application deadline: July 1, 2024 at 5 pm

Application link: <https://spllegacy.wufoo.com/forms/ksiy2lu0tzwlci/>

The Rotary Club of Madison invites your organization to consider applying for an Excellence in Education Grant. There is approximately \$123,000 available which will be distributed to up to 5 local nonprofits or public schools.

Consideration for Projects:

- a) Are being implemented by a 501(c)(3) organization, public school or a faith-based organization. Organizations that do not have a 501(c)(3) may ask an organization with this exemption to serve as a fiscal agent. (Note: One application can be submitted per 501c3 organization.
- b) Grants are for up to 2 years of funding.
- c) Requests should be for enhancing or expanding existing programs, not for new program development.
- d) If the applicant is not a public school, organizations are encouraged collaborate with Madison Public Schools.
- e) Grants must serve children between 2 and 18 years of age.
- f) Grants must serve children and youth in the City of Madison.
- g) All recipients must work with the Madison Rotary Club to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities designed to build relationships between Rotarians and the recipient agencies.
- h) Requests must be programmatic; no capital requests.

Madison Rotary supports grant proposals that:

- 1) Target underserved communities: Prioritize funding initiatives that aim to address educational disparities and support students from low-income areas, marginalized backgrounds, or disadvantaged populations.
- 2) Enhance access to quality education: Support projects that strive to remove barriers to education, such as implementing curriculum, providing necessary resources (e.g., textbooks, technology), and offering transportation options.
- 3) Foster inclusive learning environments: Encourage initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within schools, ensuring that students from all backgrounds feel welcome and supported.
- 4) Support teacher/staff professional development: We support projects that allocate funds for professional development programs that equip educators with the necessary skills and knowledge to address the unique needs of diverse student populations.
- 5) Encourage family and community engagement: We prioritize projects that emphasize the importance of involving families, communities, and stakeholders in the education process to create a collaborative and supportive network around students.
- 6) Address achievement gaps: We give preference to projects that specifically target reducing achievement gaps between different student groups, such as ethnic, racial, or socioeconomic disparities.
- 7) Measure and evaluate impact: Grantees are required to develop clear and realistic evaluation plans to assess the effectiveness and impact of their initiatives, allowing for data-driven decision-making and continuous quality improvement.

- 8) Promote innovation and research: We encourage applicants to propose innovative approaches, strategies, or research-based interventions that have the potential to address educational inequities.
- 9) Foster long-term sustainability: We prioritize projects that demonstrate a sustainable approach beyond the grant period, ensuring that the positive impact continues even after the initial funding.
- 10) Collaboration and partnerships: We encourage collaboration among schools, districts, nonprofits, and other relevant organizations to leverage resources, expertise, and collective efforts in achieving educational equity.
- 11) Provide meaningful opportunities to build collaborative relationships through volunteerism between Rotary Club of Madison Members and funded organizations.