



**Strategic Twin-Counties Education Partnership
#workHERE Mini-Grants
for Edgecombe County Public Schools &
Nash County Public Schools**

#workHERE mini-grants are funded through the generosity of our local industry partners and the ZSR Community Fund. The purpose of the #workHERE mini-grants is to test ideas, expand promising efforts or achieve greater impact through STEAM with a career/company focus and future pathway connection.

The #workHERE initiative is a regional effort to close the information gap by expanding career awareness within the Twin Counties through work-based learning experiences and creating seamless pathways that lead to employment.

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to educators for worthy projects that show the promise of benefiting students and improving educational performance. Grants will be awarded to applicants that can demonstrate that grant funds will provide a tangible, positive impact on their students.

Grants should not be used to supplement state, local, or federal dollars already available to schools. Funding is a one-time allocation with no adjustments or recurring expenses. **Materials and equipment purchased shall become the property of ECPS or NCPS and must stay in the school for which the grant was written.** Project purchases involving technology must be reviewed with a technician/technology facilitator to ensure that the purchase will be compatible with and is supported by district and individual school technologies.

Who can apply?

Any ECPS or NCPS K – 12 certified personnel who have direct contact with the students who will be involved in the project.

How much funding can be requested?

The *maximum* grant amount that will be funded for any project is \$3,000.

Who selects the grant recipients?

A STEP Grant Selection Committee (ad hoc) will review applications and select the winners. The STEP Grant Selection Committee may confer with central level ECPS or NCPS instructional leaders for additional information as needed to assure that projects are aligned with system strategies. All grant applications are reviewed without knowledge of the school or educator applicant(s). Grants will be awarded based upon merit of the proposed project.

Where do I get an application?

Email STEP Executive Director, Pam Gould steptwincounties@gmail.com or visit the STEP website, www.step-partnership.org

Only electronic copies will be accepted, no paper copies.

Completed applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

Email: steptwincounties@gmail.com

Applications must include the signed Cover Page. If the project includes a technology funding request, make sure to include the signature of a ECPS/NCPS technician or technology facilitator. School and applicant names should **only** be included on the Cover Page; **do not mention school or personnel names in the Grant Application.**

When will recipients be announced?

Recipients will be announced by December 11th. (Happy Holidays!!) All grant applicants will receive written notification of the funding decisions.

When will funds be available?

Funds will be available once announcements have been made. Notice: Grants are awarded to recipients but purchasing can be expediated through STEP in order to utilize WalMart, Amazon, and other non-state contract sites. All funds must be used before June 7, 2021. Any unused funds remaining after all project expenses are incurred will revert to STEP to be used for future #workHERE activities.

What are grant recipient responsibilities?

Recipients will be expected to collaborate with STEP to publicize the funded project within the community through photos, videos, student reflections, impact statement and digital thank you/notes.

Cover Page

Applicant(s) _____

School _____ Grade Levels _____ Date _____

Title of Project _____

Total Cost of Project \$ _____ Grant amount requested from WEP \$ _____

Are other project funds available? ____yes ____no

If yes, explain source and amount _____

Signature(s) of Applicant(s) _____

I have read this application and fully support its implementation within the school. I certify that this application is aligned with the NC Standard Course of Study and supports our School Improvement Plan. To the best of my knowledge, the materials requested are not presently available in this school.

Signature of School Principal _____ Date _____

For any purchases involving technology, the following authorization is required:

I have discussed the request with the applicant(s) and verify that these purchases are compatible with the network and supported by the school district.

Signature of ECPS/NCPS Technician or Technology Facilitator _____

**Email the Signed Cover Page, Application and Budget Sheet to STEP by 5 p.m.,
Wednesday, December 2, 2020 to Pam Gould at steptwincounties@gmail.com.**

No paper copies will be accepted.

#workHERE Grant Proposal

1. Please provide an overview of your STEAM project and how it will benefit your classroom and/or school. Also, explain how the skills/subjects will tie into the **#workHERE initiative**.
2. Please document the number of students who will be impacted by this project:
3. Please indicate and explain if your project will supplement/augment the curriculum for the following student populations
 - High Risk (behavioral issues, low income)
 - Academically/Intellectually Gifted
 - Spanish Immersion
 - English as a Second Language
 - International Baccalaureate
 - Literacy
 - General Student Body
 - Other
4. Please indicate and explain if your project will include professional development (training, mentoring, licensure, etc.). Leave blank if not applicable.
5. How will the project be implemented?
6. What does success for this project look like to you? Examples include but are not limited to:
 - X increase in student participation for a specific extra-curricular activity
 - Evaluation of student engagement through a questionnaire
 - % increase of overall student EOG testing in a specific subject
 - # of student school/community volunteers
 - # of students participating in educational exhibits/fairs/showcases
 - Increased utilization of technology
 - % placement increase for students in workforce and/or post-secondary education
 - Demonstrated inclusion
 - Increased attendance rates
 - External evaluation of set criteria, i.e. student interviews, parent interviews, overall finished product

