



DOW TEXAS OPERATIONS
2009-2010 EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Dow Education Grants Program?

The Dow Education Grants Program is a competitive grant process that allows local public and private school campuses in southern Brazoria County providing state curriculum-based kindergarten to Grade 12 education the opportunity to apply for funding for projects promoting interest and academic excellence in math and science education.

Why does Dow offer an Education Grants Program?

Dow, like the community, recognizes that a quality educational system is critical to the future success of both the community and local industry. The program provides Dow the opportunity to help meet the needs of local school campuses in promoting interest and excellence in science and math programs.

How can I get an electronic version of the application?

For an electronic version of the application please contact Christy Starr at CAStarr@dow.com.

Who is eligible to apply for the grants?

Private schools in Southern Brazoria County and public school campuses within the Angleton Independent School District (AISD), Brazosport Independent School District (BISD), Columbia- Brazoria Independent School District (C-BISD), Danbury Independent School District (DISD) and Sweeny Independent School District (SISD) may apply. **One** application per school campus will be accepted. Multiple applications from a single campus will result in the disqualification of all applications from that campus.

Who is NOT eligible to apply for the grants?

Booster clubs, parent-teacher organizations and extracurricular clubs are not eligible to apply. Educational organizations providing programs outside the state-approved curriculum are also not eligible.

What type of projects are the grants designed for?

Qualifying projects may include (but are not limited to) laboratory improvements, equipment purchases, library additions and vocational/technical education projects as they relate to math and science.

What types of projects or programs are ineligible for the grants?

Projects or programs that intend to utilize funding for stipends, gifts, regular and customary training expenses*, parties, conferences, festivals or celebrations are ineligible. Substitute pay, travel expenses, and/or teacher salaries will **NOT** be funded. Additionally, projects directed specifically at non-secular education are ineligible.

Teacher training and staff development **directly related to the purpose of the project are permitted.*

How much money will the Education Grants Program provide?

The maximum grant awarded in this program is \$10,000. However, applicants are encouraged to apply for only the amount they need to implement a project and this may not require the maximum amount. This may allow for more projects to be funded. A complete budget must be submitted detailing the project expenses. If additional funding beyond the Dow grant is required, the application must state the source of that funding and confirm that it is in place and available.

Is there a limit on the number of grants for which a campus may apply? Why?

Dow will accept only one application per school campus. Multiple applications from a single campus will result in the disqualification of all applications from that campus in order for the funding to be fairly distributed across different schools and communities.

What information must be included in an application?

Applicants must complete a 2009-2010 Education Grant Application. This must include a detailed project budget plan. If the Dow Education Grant will only fund a portion of the project, information about other confirmed funding sources must be provided. Each application requires the validation of the campus principal. A space for the principal's signature is provided on the application cover page. The application should be a maximum of five pages, including the cover page and detailed budget.

By when must the grant project be completed?

Projects must be completed by December 31, 2010**. Progress information will be requested from each recipient school throughout the 2009-10 calendar year.

***By accepting the grant, recipients agree that they will refund any portion of the grant money allocated to project components that are not completed by December 31, 2010.*

What is the deadline for application submission?

The completed Education Grant Application and cover sheet must be received in Dow's Public Affairs Office **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2009.**

Applications may be submitted by mail or hand delivered to Dow-Texas Operations, Public Affairs, APB Building at 2301 N. Brazosport Blvd, Freeport, Texas, 77541.

Who decides who gets the grants?

Each application will be reviewed by a committee of Dow employees and external community members including those from the education community (but not affiliated with any of the applying school campuses).

What can I do to make my application more likely to be chosen?

Read the grant guidelines carefully and ensure the project meets the criteria. When completing the application, ensure you fully answer all the questions. Provide a detailed budget and ask only for the amount required to implement the project, up to a maximum of \$10,000. Provide a full explanation of what the project will accomplish (results) and how it will be implemented. Use lay terminology, as the review committee may or may not be familiar with technical or education industry terminology. Do not exceed five pages in your application. Finally, submit the application prior to the deadline of November 6, 2009 at 4 p.m.

Where can I get more information?

For additional information, please contact Trish Ritthaler at (979) 238-2753 or TRRitthaler@dow.com or Christy Starr at (979) 238-4649 or CAStarr@dow.com.