



# Pencils For Progress Micro Innovators Classroom Grant – Eligibility Requirements

## 1. Applicant Eligibility

To apply for the Pencils For Progress Micro Innovators Classroom Grant, applicants must meet all the following criteria:

### 1. Teaching Role

- Applicants must be a currently active classroom teacher or program leader serving students directly.
- Eligible roles include:
  - Pre-K through 12th grade classroom teachers
  - Special education teachers
  - After-school program instructors
  - Academic interventionists and enrichment specialists
- School administrators, substitute teachers, or volunteers not directly responsible for a classroom are **not eligible ALONE**. They may coordinate on a joint-project with an eligible individual.

### 2. School Location

- Eligibility is for teachers in Bexar **County**.
- Teachers must provide their school name, district, and city to confirm eligibility.

### 3. School Type

- Public, charter, and private schools are eligible.
- After-school programs and educational programs aligned with schools are eligible, as long as students are regularly enrolled or attend consistently, which will be up to the discretion of the scoring panel.

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## 2. Project Eligibility

Eligible projects must meet the following criteria:

### 1. Purpose

- Projects must enhance student **creativity, engagement, and learning outcomes**– all values of Pencils For Progress' mission.
- Examples include but aren't limited to:



- Hands-on STEM / STEAM projects
  - Classroom transformations or maker spaces
  - Literacy programs or creative writing projects
  - Art, music, or performance-based learning initiatives
  - Problem-solving, critical thinking, or inquiry-based lessons
2. **Funding Restrictions**
- Grant funds **cannot** be used for:
    - Gift cards or cash incentives for teachers or students
    - Food-only purchases
    - General school expenses unrelated to the project
    - Personal compensation for the applicant
3. **Budget Limit**
- Total project budget **must not exceed \$500**.
  - Applicants must provide an itemized breakdown of how funds will be spent.
4. **Implementation Timeline**
- Projects must be executed during the **current school year** (2025–2026).
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## 3. Application Requirements

All applicants must submit:

1. **Completed Online Application**
- Include:
    - Teacher and school information
    - Short project summary (max 200 words)
    - Budget breakdown
    - Approximate number of students impacted
    - Optional 30–60 second video pitch explaining the project
2. **Teacher Verification**
- Provide one of the following as proof of teaching:
    - Screenshot or PDF of your school ID or badge
    - Letter on school letterhead signed by a school administrator
3. **Optional Video Submission**
- Teachers may upload a short video (30–60 seconds) describing their project.
  - Not required, but highly recommended to help the selection committee visualize the project and impact.
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## 4. Selection Criteria



Projects are evaluated based on the following:

1. **Impact on Students**
    - How directly the project supports student learning and creativity
    - Number of students reached
  2. **Creativity / Innovation**
    - Originality and imaginative approach
    - Student engagement potential
  3. **Feasibility**
    - Budget alignment and realistic plan
    - Ability to implement project successfully within \$500 and school year timeline
  4. **Alignment with P4P Mission**
    - Supports equitable, creative, and meaningful classroom experiences
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## 5. Post-Selection Requirements

Recipients must agree to:

1. **Reporting**
    - Submit photos of the project in action
    - Provide a short reflection (max 500 words) on student impact within **60 days** of using grant funds
  2. **Public Sharing**
    - Grant recipients consent to Pencils For Progress sharing project photos and outcomes on social media, website, and other promotional materials
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## 6. Additional Notes

- Only one application per teacher per grant cycle will be accepted.
  - Multiple teachers may collaborate on a single project and submit a joint application; only **one \$500 grant** will be awarded per project. Teachers may only be a part of a single project submission, not multiple (even if in a group).
  - Teachers not selected are encouraged to reapply in future grant cycles or explore other funding resources listed on our Resources page.
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### Contact for Eligibility Questions

Email: [grants@pencilsforprogress.org](mailto:grants@pencilsforprogress.org)

Include your school name, grade level, and a brief description of your project idea.