

Wisconsin Fast Forward Technical Education Equipment Grant

Questions and Answers

1. Can you clarify the process to apply for the Technical Education Equipment Grant GPA?

Visit the Wisconsin Fast Forward web page (http://wisconsinfastforward.com/wff_standard.htm) and scroll down to "Expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward Grants." Below the description and details for "Technical Education Equipment Grants," you will find links from which to download the following:

- 1) the Grant Program Announcement (<http://wisconsinfastforward.com/pdf/gpa-tech-edu-equip-grant.pdf>) which provides information on the grant program and directions for the application;
- 2) the Application (<http://wisconsinfastforward.com/doc/tech-edu-equip-application.docx>), a Microsoft Word document that must be submitted in Microsoft Word format, that is, with a .docx extension – NOT as a .pdf, Google link or Google document; and
- 3) the Evaluation Rubric (<http://wisconsinfastforward.com/pdf/grant-eval-rubric-scoresheet.pdf>), which provides the criteria with which applications will be evaluated.

Answer the questions in the Application by following the instructions in the Grant Program Announcement and the evaluation criteria in the Rubric. After completion, save the Application. To submit your application, email it along with your letters of support and any other documents to WisconsinFastForward@dwd.wisconsin.gov by 3 pm CST on January 11, 2021.

2. Why was my request for access to the WFF system as an application writer denied?

The Technology Education Equipment Grant GPA does not use the Wisconsin Fast Forward Grant online application portal. The application and GPA documents can be accessed from the Wisconsin Fast Forward website at http://wisconsinfastforward.com/wff_standard.htm. For more information about how to apply please see the response to question #1.

3. What is the percentage of match that is required for this grant?

As stated on page 2 of the GPA, matching funds equal to 200 percent of the awarded grant amount are required per Wis. Stat. § 106.275 (1)(c) and Wis. Admin. Code § DWD 802.06. Match may be in the form of money or the monetary value of equipment that is contributed from private sources, the applicant, or both. The provider of any donated equipment should provide signed attestation on letterhead of its monetary value.

4. What are the parameters of the award? What is the minimum and maximum award that I can request?

Awards are reimbursement grants that require \$2 of matching funds for each \$1 of awarded funds. Award amount requests must range between \$5,000 to \$50,000 (not including match). Applications for awards of less than \$5,000 or more than \$50,000 are not accepted.

5. I am in the process of writing a Technology Education Fast Forward Grant for the purchase of a CNC Milling Machine, we have earned a CTE Incentive Grant that we want to use as part of our matching funds. The dollars are in our account and can be spent how we choose. Is this a possibility to use these dollars?

You may use CTE Incentive Grant funds that have been paid to and received by schools from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as Match. Perkins Grant funds, donated funds, or funds allocated in a budget or a passed referendum are some other funding types that are allowable as Match. If eligible, Match dollars must be spent on the project described in the application during the contract period.

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6. We currently have a piece of technical equipment; however, we have not had it installed yet. Installation will require modification to the power supply as well as other minor modifications. Is this an allowable cost under this Program?

Eligible expenses for the Technical Education Equipment grants are outlined on page 5 of the GPA and are limited to the acquisition of equipment that is used in advanced manufacturing fields in the workplace, together with any software necessary for the operation of the equipment, and any instructional materials necessary to train pupils in the operation of that equipment. Unfortunately, installation of existing equipment and building modification expenses are not considered eligible expenses for this program.

7. Are private schools eligible to apply for the Technical Education Equipment Grant GPA?

Per Wis. Stat. § 106.275 and Wis. Admin. Code § DWD 802.06, eligible applicants are limited to Wisconsin School Districts and may apply for no more than one grant for this round of funding.

8. Do all parts of the WFF Technical Education Equipment grant need to be submitted as Word documents or can supporting documents be attached or emailed as PDF documents?

The letters of support may be submitted as PDF documents.