

## New Competitive Grants Qualifications

The Career Technical Education (CTE) Foundation annually seeks applications for funding through our Competitive Grants process. These grants are intended to support the start-up or expansion of career technical education and training programs/courses, for high school and/or college credit, in Sonoma County and may include funding for staffing, supplies, professional development, and instructional materials.

### Required Model Elements

- a) The request focuses on one of the following key industry areas: *Advanced Technology and Manufacturing, Construction/Green Services, Agriculture, Sonoma Specialties (wine, food, and tourism), Health and Wellness.*
- b) The CTE course/section provides high school and/or college credit.
- c) The course/section includes a Financial Literacy component. (Curriculum provided by Redwood Credit Union and available through the Sonoma County Office of Education)
- d) The course includes a Work Readiness component. (Guidance provided by Sonoma County Office of Education)

### Other Model Elements

- e) The course allows for students of all abilities and educational pathways to engage.
- f) The course integrates with other academic content areas, such as Mathematics, Science, Social Science or English Language Arts.<sup>1</sup>
- g) The course has an internal champion at the school (teacher/volunteer) and the full support of school and district leadership.
- h) The school has access to facilities, staff and curriculum for this course.
- i) The school plans to have a local company involved, such as providing support and assistance in the classroom for an integrated project, mentoring, equipment, work based learning opportunities, internships, etc.
- j) The course has plans for, or existing articulation agreements/dual enrollment, with post-secondary education.
- k) The course attracts and retains enough students to fill the course, who in turn, provide positive feedback to attract and encourage more students to attend in subsequent years.
- l) The school/district annually measures the program's impact and success based on anticipated outcomes.

The Request for Applications (RFA) is distributed on an annual basis as funding is available and based on a specified timeline. (See current year timeline)

### Grant Review and Approval Process

- 1) Applications receive a preliminary review by Executive Director; applications are assembled and processed for grant committee review
- 2) Applications are evaluated and grants are awarded based on a tiered scoring system, which prioritizes the proposals based on their support of the economic and workforce needs in Sonoma County, and on how closely they align with elements of a Model CTE Program.
- 3) Grants are recommended for final approval by the CTE Foundation Board of Directors following review and approval by the CTE Grant Review Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Contact SCOE CTE Support Services department (*Stephen Jackson: (707) 524-2720*) for further information on integrating Common Core Standards with CTE courses; the Work Readiness curriculum; and the Northern California Career Pathway Alliance (NCCPA) Foundational Elements.

- 4) Funds are disbursed directly from the CTE Foundation to designated schools/districts prior to start of the school year for which funds are approved.
- 5) **CTE Sections that include funding for teacher salaries are typically awarded on a multi-year basis (up to three years).** Grant renewal is contingent on progress reports and statement of Intent to Renew. **All grant recipients** are required to provide a brief mid-term report and a year-end report that address the program's impact and measures of success based on the targeted outcomes as expressed in original application. All other grants are typically one year (equipment, supplies, Planning Grants).
- 6) Classroom tours will be requested in October/November as a way to showcase CTE funded programs and may include invitations to local media, CTE Foundation board members and donors, other schools/districts, industry representatives and elected officials.
- 7) Student Pre and Post course surveys are to be conducted annually in all sections/courses funded by CTE Foundation. To ensure participation from all students, surveys are distributed in both online and hard copy format.

For information please visit <http://ctesonomacounty.org/programs-grants/>