2025
Technology Innovation Challenge Grants

Application Package

Greater Chambersburg Chamber Foundation

Applications Due:

Monday April 21, 2025

Introduction

The *Technology Innovation Challenge Grant* program provides funding to integrate innovative technology into the classroom. These grants are a stimulus for **creative applications of technology** in support of creating effective learning environments and high standards for all students. This grant also supports projects that ensure equitable access to high-quality, innovative technology education for all students by **effectively implementing the PA STEELS Standards.**

The funding for this grant is made possible by the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). As an approved Educational Improvement Organization (EIO), the Greater Chambersburg Chamber Foundation partners with area businesses to provide these grant dollars to Franklin County public school educators. Grant proposals should be **no less than $1000 or more than $8000.**

Proposal Criteria

Technology alone does not meet the EITC guidelines. A program must be established that meets the below criteria.

1. I**nnovative:** Each proposal will be evaluated in this category as either: highly innovative, advanced, standard, or slightly behind the times or dated.
2. **Value added to the curriculum**: Your proposal **MUST** be linked to core curriculum areas such as Math, English, Science, History, Art, Music, etc. Programs that solely focus on life skills, study habits, SAT or PSSA prep, drug & alcohol counseling, motivational courses, etc. will not be accepted
3. **Pennsylvania Science, Technology and Environmental Literacy (STEELS) Standards**: Grantees are required to design and implement instructional activities that explicitly address and integrate applicable **Pennsylvania STEELS Standards** within their project scope. Include standards from other core content areas as needed.
    - **Provide evidence** of student learning aligned with these standards through assessments, observations, and other relevant data collection methods. Be sure to note Science, Technology and Engineering Practices as well as Cross Cutting Concepts.
    - **Utilize instructional strategies** that promote critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, collaboration, and communication skills, as outlined in the STEELS standards.
4. **Advanced academic in nature**: The proposal **MUST** be advanced academically for the subject area and therefore should not be general or remedial. However, proposed programs are not limited to gifted/college prep/honors students.
5. Proposals must include information on the **future sustainability of the project** after the initial funding and implementation phase.

Application Process

To be considered, your proposal must be submitted by **Monday April 21, 2025.** The application (see below) includes a one to two paragraph summary of the proposed project, listing any barriers your project may face, listing equipment that is needed for the project, outlining a timeline for implementing the project and explaining how many students will be impacted. Applications must be typed, submitted by the due date and have all appropriate signatures to be complete.

The selection committee consists of Greater Chambersburg Chamber Foundation board members, retired educators and community business leaders with the Foundation Executive Director serving as a non-voting group facilitator. The selection committee may not rate proposals from districts they have worked in or from educators that they know personally.

Timeline

- **Monday April 21, 2025 -** Application deadline

- **April-May 2025 –** The grant selection committee reviews applications using a standardized rubric and submits the finalists to the PA State Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for approval. **SEE RUBRIC ON LAST PAGE**

- **Summer 2025** - Grantees notified as soon as DCED approves recommendations

- **Wednesday, August 13, 2025** – Grant winners are invited to attend the CVBA Franklin County Education Summit 7am-9am, at Wilson College

- **Monday November 24, 2025 -** Reimbursement requests from grantee school districts must be submitted by this date so they can be paid out by the end of the year.

Application Guidance

We have provided our rubric & a separate document with grants recently funded. If you have any questions, please contact:

Ginny Harriger, Executive Director
Greater Chambersburg Chamber Foundation
717- 264-7101, ext. 205
gharriger@chambersburg.org

2025 Technology Innovation Challenge Grant - Application

DEADLINE: Monday April 21, 2025

_____   _____

APPLICANT(S)   DATE

_____   _____

SCHOOL/DISTRICT   PROJECT TITLE

_____ $_____

GRADE LEVEL/DEPT.   BUDGET REQUEST

_____   _____

DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER   EVENING TELEPHONE NUMBER*

_____   _____

EMAIL   SUMMER EMAIL

*PLEASE PROVIDE NUMBER THAT YOU CAN BE CONTACTED AT DURING THE SUMMER

_____

Applicant's Signature

_____

Director of Technology (Required)

_____

Building Principal, Head Teacher or Dept Lead (Required)

Please email or mail applications to:
Greater Chambersburg Chamber Foundation
Attn: Technology Innovation Challenge Grant
100 Lincoln Way East, Suite A, Chambersburg, PA 17201
gharriger@chambersburg.org

(Application continues next page.)

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FOUNDATION

Technology Innovation Challenge Grant - Application

Please complete the following information. Applications MUST be typed.

1. Write a one-paragraph summary (200 words or less) of the project you would like to try at your school:

2. What challenge(s) do you face which this grant will address? Tell why you think there is a special need for this project.

3. Describe your project in specific detail. Discuss methods, needed materials, resource personnel, a tentative schedule, and your completion date.

4. Describe how your project addresses the funding priorities and criteria:
   · Innovation
   · Value added to curriculum.
   · Pennsylvania Science, Technology and Environmental Literacy (STEELS) Standards
   · Advanced academically in nature

5. Approximately how many students will be affected by this project? Explain how you arrived at this number.

6. EVALUATION – How will you determine whether your objectives have been achieved? You will be required to write a one-page evaluation at the conclusion of your project (also include a final budget report).

7. Detail your budget request. Include specific information such as kinds of materials and equipment needed, supply sources, etc. Be sure to include all costs.
   Example:

ITEM	SUPPLIER	COST
"Learning to Read" books	ABC Book Company	$33.00

8. Are you applying for any other grants or receiving any other funds for this proposal?

9. How will the project be sustained financially into the future after initial grant funding and implementation? This includes any subscription-based fees, technology maintenance or upgrades etc. (Support from your district technology team is required and verified with signature on main page)

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2025 RUBRIC

GCCF Technology Innovation Challenge Grant - Rubric	1	2	3	4	5	Score
				NAME APPLICANT:	**NAME REVIEWER:**	**DATE:**
Innovative	Dated Program	A little behind the times	Standard Programming	Advanced Programming	Highly Innovative	
Value Added to the Curriculum	Not linked to Core Curriculum areas such as Math, English, Science, History, Art, Music, Etc.	Loosely linked to Core Curriculum areas such as Math, English, Science, History, Art, Music, Etc.	Somewhat linked to Core Curriculum areas such as Math, English, Science, History, Art, Music, Etc.	Linked to Core Curriculum areas such as Math, English, Science, History, Art, Music, Etc.	Strongly linked to Core Curriculum areas such as Math, English, Science, History, Art, Music, Etc.	
PA STEEL STANDARDS	Project Scope is not linked to PA STEEL STANDARDS	Project scope is loosely linked to PA STEEL STANDARDS for the subject area	Project scope is somewhat linked to PA STEEL STANDARDS for the subject area	Project scope is Academically Advanced to PA STEEL STANDARDS for the subject area	Project scope is significantly Academically Advanced to PA STEEL STANDARDS for	
Advanced Academic in Nature	Program is general or remedial	Program loosely Advanced Academic for the subject area it adds value to	Program somewhat Advanced Academic for the subject area it adds value to	Program Advanced Academic for the subject area it adds value to	Program significantly Advanced Academic for the subject area it adds value to	
Total						