



FOUNDATION FOR RURAL
EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

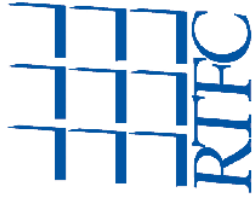
Education Grants 2009

TECHNOLOGY GRANTS FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

\$1,000 - \$10,000

*Grants for Technology
Improvements in Rural Schools*

Sponsored by:



**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

New Requirement: Telephone Companies may only submit 4 applications.



TECHNOLOGY GRANTS FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

As the role of technology in classroom grows, it becomes a powerful tool to improve both teaching and learning. Many schools are incorporating new, innovative technology in an effort to help motivate and inspire their students. Their goals include bringing modern computers to every classroom, connecting every classroom to the information superhighway and making sure that effective and engaging software and online resources will be an integral part of every school curriculum. Many public schools in rural areas lack the resources to obtain new technologies and cannot meet these goals. The Foundation for Rural Education and Development (FRED) in cooperation with the Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative (RTFC) created the Technology Grants for Rural Schools program to help meet the growing need for innovative technology in the classroom. *This grant program provides funding for projects that advance technology and foster cooperation among the telco, school and community.*

FOCUS AREA

Technology Grants are available to public schools that are working in cooperation with their telcos to enhance learning by increasing the use of technology in the classroom. This includes adding new programs and curriculum for technology education and purchasing new equipment. Summaries of successful project proposals in 2008 can be found at www.fred.org. Examples of possible grant requests include, but are not limited to:

- Computer-assisted learning (CAL) programs
- Computer-equipment and programs, including word processors, spreadsheets and database managers
- Subject-specific tools
- Electronic access to information, including CD-ROMs and Internet access in each classroom

ELIGIBILITY

Any public K-12 school located in the service area of an OPASTCO telephone company may apply. A letter of nomination and support from the local telephone company must accompany all applications. Projects and purchases must directly benefit the rural school requesting the grant.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Completed applications must be submitted to the FRED offices by the deadline on the application form. All applicants will be notified as to the committee's selections within 45 days after the deadline. A large number of applications are expected. Please note that the review committee **will not** read the first five pages of any application. This page limit **includes** all requested materials, except for the letter of nomination from the OPASTCO member telephone company.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The 2009 grant application deadline is September 14, 2009. A committee appointed by the FRED Board of Directors will review all applications and select the award recipients after the application deadline. Applications will be evaluated on six (6) specific scoring criteria listed below. The maximum number of point available is 100 with some areas weighed more heavily than others. Point assignments are listed next to each criteria. Applicants are encouraged to read this section carefully, as it shows how the selection committee scores applications. Strongest consideration will be given to applications that shows cooperative efforts with the school, telco and community. All applications should clearly define the following criteria:

- ① project's cooperative efforts among telco, school and community (20 pts.);
- ② magnitude of the problem to be addressed (25 pts.);
- ③ economic need of school/school district (15 pts.);
- ④ impact of the project on students and faculty (15 pts.);
- ⑤ measurability of the goals, objectives, and outcomes (15 pts.); and
- ⑥ clarity and feasibility of the project's vision (10 pts.).

Technology Grants are intended to help promote innovation and creativity in rural schools. Not all projects, however, are eligible for funding.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SELECTED...

FRED, in cooperation with RTFC, will award grants on an annual basis in the range of \$1,000-\$10,000, depending on the scope of the grant-funding request. All projects must be implemented and purchases must be made during the 2009-10 school year. You will be required to show proof of purchase of the items outlined in your application by the end of the 2009-10 school year.



TECHNOLOGY GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Name of School*: _____
* All schools applying for the grant must be in the service area of, and nominated by, an OPASTCO member telephone company.

Primary Contact: _____

Principal/School Administrator: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Grant Amount Requested: _____

Signature of Principal/School Administrator: _____

of students in school district: _____ # of students in applicant school: _____

of students impacted by proposed technology in a single year: _____

Name of Nominating Telephone Company/Cooperative: _____

Primary Contact: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone/Fax/E-mail: _____

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS WITH COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM:

Use Paperclips - No Staples

- ① a detailed narrative no longer than three single-spaced, 8 1/2" x 11" typed pages that provides financial and logistical details on how the grant will be used, who will be assigned responsibility for implementation and anticipated results. Narrative should state specific effects the project and/or equipment will have on students' education and address budgetary implementation for the project and/or equipment;
- ② a budget for total grant money requested; and
- ③ a letter of nomination from OPASTCO member telephone company.

DEADLINE

Grant applications are due in the FRED office by September 14, 2009. Applications **cannot** be faxed. Please direct all questions to FRED's program coordinator, at 202.659.5990 or fred@opastco.org. More information about the program and a downloadable application form can be found at www.fred.org.

Please include all requested information. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

All applications must be received (not postmarked) by September 14, 2009.

Send applications and additional materials to:

FRED Technology Grants Committee, 21 Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC, 20036

Limit 4 Applications per Telephone Company