

2026 Mini Grants

Application Process



PURPOSE:

The Gahanna-Jefferson Education Foundation Mini Grants provide a financial means for educators to create experiences that enrich student learning. These Mini Grants may be used for classroom resources and educational materials to:

- **Promote Wellness**
- **Support At-Risk Students**
- **Enhance Curriculum**

These grants are awarded maximum **\$500 per teacher**. (one grant / teacher)

REQUIREMENTS:

- Any GJPS staff member may apply.
- Please [CLICK HERE](#) to begin the on-line application process or go to www.gjef.org for the link. You will be able to save the draft for editing at a later time.
- Application deadline: **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1, 2026**
- Grant application **MUST be approved** by the building Principal.
- If there is a technology component to the grant, please consult with Director of Technology, Matt Blackwell, to verify cost information and preferred vendors.
- Staff members are asked to save receipts from the project.
- Grant recipients are asked to acknowledge the GJEF as a supporting organization when publicizing their project. If applicable, photos or video of your project are appreciated.
- Equipment and materials shall remain with the building.
- Timeline for awarding grants and ordering materials
 - **Grants awarded: End of September, 2026**
 - **Checks to be issued by October, 2026. (Staff members purchase their own grant items)**

QUESTIONS OR WANT TO DISCUSS A GRANT IDEA?

Contact Dianna Bessignano (bessignanod@gjps.org) or Tricia Mueller (muellert@gjps.org)
614-416-0298

2025 Mini Grants

Grant Guidelines



FOUNDATION MISSION:

To promote excellence in education by supporting inspiring and innovative programs that impact the learning experiences for the students of the Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

The Education Foundation seeks to fund educational projects that are relevant, creative, effective, and inspiring. An emphasis will be given to projects that fall into the following categories:

- programs, projects and activities that encourage physical activity and healthy habits
- programs that support at-risk students and enhance their curriculum
- programs that provide enrichment and add instructional, inspirational, and/or life experience value to the curriculum

Grant applications will be evaluated based on, minimally, the following factors:

- strengthen academics and meet curriculum objectives
- directly influence student learning
- goals and objectives clearly defined
- detailed, **itemized budget** that is economically sound
 - **Please list specific products and costs**
 - Attachments or links to websites with product descriptions are very helpful

GJEF grant funds are intended to support items that are used directly by the students and may NOT be used for the following:

- Field trips or transportation costs
- Staff salaries or the cost of substitute staff
- Salaries for outside instructors
- Teacher guidebooks, software, etc.
- Classroom furniture, rugs, lighting, decor etc.
- T-shirts
- Food or refreshments
- Items for incentives
- Programs and items which could be funded through traditional school or public funding sources

PLEASE THE NEXT PAGE FOR A SAMPLE BUDGET

(SAMPLE BUDGET)

Including links to items is very helpful.

Be sure to include Shipping fees if applicable

Our purchases are tax-exempt so no need to include tax costs.

Link to amazon wish list with full list and prices:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2A3KV1C2UNPJN?ref_=wl_share

Lyellfe 10 Pack Plastic Palette, 20 Well Sturdy Reusable Pai...

\$19.99 each (4 sets total)

Subtotal: \$79.96

Play-Doh Modeling Compound 10-Pack Case of Colors, Perf...

\$7.99 each (4 sets total)

Subtotal: \$31.96

NowFuture 22Pcs Rainbow Seven Color Fidget Block To...

\$15.90 each (4 sets total)

Subtotal: \$63.60

Black Merkaunis 50 Pack Dry Erase Pockets, 10 x 14 Inches, Job...

\$31.59 each (1 set total)

Subtotal: \$31.59

EXPO Low Odor Dry Erase Markers, Fine Tip, Black, 4 C...

\$4.88 each (10 sets total)

Subtotal: \$48.80

Sooez 10 Pack Plastic Envelopes Poly Envelopes, C...

42

\$10.99 (6 sets total)

Subtotal: \$65.95

IRIS USA Letter & Legal-Size Plastic Storage File Box, Black

\$19.99 (1 total)

Subtotal: \$19.99

Amazon Basics Hanging File Folders, Letter Size, Gray, 25...

\$20.07

Subtotal: \$20.07

Overall Subtotal in Amazon Cart: \$383.11