



IEA Foundation SCORE Grants

Frequently Asked Questions

What does SCORE stand for?

The acronym SCORE was selected to represent Schools and Community Outreach by Educators.

What is the purpose of the SCORE grants?

The purpose of Schools and Community Outreach by Educators (SCORE) grants are to encourage early career members and their local associations to collaborate and create opportunities for community service projects. Proposals should be substantive and meaningful. They should build visible foundations for deeper relationships with students, families and communities. Additionally, IEA wants to foster the deeper value of the association in the life of our members and identify new leaders to carry forth the mission and goals of IEA.

Who can apply?

The focus of this opportunity is to engage emerging leaders. Any educator that is an IEA member who is working in a certified or ESP position who is in their first ten (10) years in any IEA local is eligible to apply for a SCORE grant. If partners or trios of IEA members apply together, at least one of the applicants should be within their first 10 years of membership.

What types of projects are typically funded?

We discourage applications requesting funds for instructional materials or field trips. Grants are typically awarded to applicants that demonstrate their proposal focuses on volunteering or community service, or is a partnership opportunity with an organization and/or community-based entity. (i.e. church, mosque, synagogue, boys/girls club, chamber of commerce, trade union, community organization, League of Women Voters, Farm Bureau, FFA, shelter, not for profit agency, YMCA, coalition, other association, sorority, fraternity, other entity, etc.)

The categories of projects that typically get funded include community partnerships, enrichment, fine arts, outdoors and STEM. An archive of past funded projects can be found on the IEA website at www.ieanea.org/score.

How much money is typically awarded?

Grant proposals of \$1,000 or less are encouraged in order to fund as many projects as possible. Proposals for more than \$1,000 will be considered, but may not be completely funded.

I have an idea for more than \$1,000. Should I still apply?

Absolutely! However, we reserve the right to partially fund the project.

I have an idea for less than \$1,000. Should I still apply?

Absolutely! Many successful applications proposed project ideas that requested \$500 or less.

How are SCORE grants funded?

IEA members, regions, and outside donors contribute to the IEA Foundation which funds SCORE grants.

Who reviews the applications and makes the decision about which ones to fund?

An advisory group uses a rubric to review all submitted, completed applications. A copy of the rubric is available on the website for your review in advance of submitting your application. The advisory group is made up of IEA leaders, members, and staff who then make recommendations to the IEA Foundation trustees.

What have I committed to if my project is chosen?

If you are selected as a grant recipient, you have committed to an online training with other grant recipients and a face-to-face networking session where you will meet other grant recipients. This has been extremely helpful to past participants. We collected data throughout the school year about their impressions of IEA, their willingness to be involved and what other additional resources they needed. As a result of being a SCORE recipient many of them were able to better explain who IEA is and why their membership is worthwhile. They saw a relevance to their association at the state and local levels in that this opportunity met a need that otherwise would have gone unfulfilled.

I have been an IEA member for more than 10 years. Can I still apply?

We encourage you to partner with an early career member and apply together. That is someone we define as 10 years or less of membership with an IEA local affiliate.

I am not a Pre K-12 classroom teacher. Can I still apply?

Yes! We welcome applications from all educators that are IEA members: teachers, education support professionals, higher ed faculty and staff, and others that have been members of IEA for 10 years or less.

How do I submit my application?

All SCORE grant applications should be submitted online. You can submit your application at www.ieanea.org/score. To find more information about how to submit your application, including an [application preview](#), [grant guidelines](#), and [rubric for project proposals](#), please visit the IEA website.

I have more questions about the SCORE grant program. Who should I contact?

Please contact the IEA staff for the SCORE grant program at score@ieanea.org or call Meredith Byers at (217) 321-2312.