



THIRD QUARTER 2021 REQUEST FOR LETTER OF INQUIRY (LOI) – EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM

Granting Priorities

Reflecting its purpose of promoting health and education for the residents of Weld County, The Weld Trust requests proposals for projects and programs that address the current priorities and goals identified by The Weld Trust.

In accordance with The Weld Trust’s vision to help Weld County become the most educated County in the State of Colorado, the third quarter 2021 Education initiative is focused on:

Access to Resources

The Weld Trust has defined access to resources as removing barriers or impediments that hold students back from performing to their capabilities, as well as providing new, innovative opportunities so students can succeed at their highest level. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways, and we are hoping that school districts, services providers, and government agencies will look to partner with each other, share resources and ideas that have proven to work, and come together in the best interest of the students in Weld County.

Opportunities might include, but are not limited to, the development of career paths for students, enhancement of STEM programs, or the development of vocational or technical training opportunities within the County. We would also consider collaborative projects that provide site-based services (either school-based or at other nonprofit sites). These might provide items such as mental health services, tutoring, mentoring programs, ESL programs, special education enhancements, food backpack programs, after-school programs, sports, robotics, clubs, or any other opportunities that help young people thrive. The Weld Trust also understands that good programs or projects may already be available, but that students may not have access to them because of a lack of technology, transportation, or parent availability. Improving access in those areas might also be a consideration. This is not an exhaustive list, so we encourage you to think broadly about the barriers that students face and new ways of doing things that you think might help students be the best they can be.

In addition, The Weld Trust gives priority to projects that:

- Address underlying social and economic challenges contributing to education outcomes in the communities served, such as poverty or other barriers to effective education.
- Demonstrate collaboration among school districts, government entities and nonprofit agencies.
- Prioritize engagement of residents from the communities served.
- The Weld Trust values evidence-based best practices, but also encourages innovative solutions.
- Leverage additional funding as well as community assets.
- Provide an established plan for evaluation including measurable outcomes.
- Have a demonstrable sustainability plan that will enable the work to continue beyond the funding period.



Guidelines

Eligible applicants must be tax-exempt organizations under Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) or operate under the fiscal sponsorship of a tax-exempt nonprofit, including schools and public organizations.

PLEASE NOTE: Only nonprofit organizations, schools, and government agencies located in Weld County or whose program is exclusively for Weld County residents in the areas of health or education are eligible to apply.

How to Apply

Interested applicants must submit a letter of inquiry via our website no later than 5:00 MST on August 6, 2021. **Please do not submit a full proposal unless invited to do so.** If the LOI is accepted, an application form will be made available. Those invited to submit a full proposal will be notified by August 17, 2021.

Completed applications with supporting documents must then be submitted to The Weld Trust no later than 5:00 MST on September 10, 2021. Final grant decisions will be announced by November 1, 2021. Funding will be in late December with the grant period beginning January 1, 2022.

Letter of Inquiry Content and Parameters:

Please fill out the Letter of Inquiry on our website at www.WeldTrust.org/grants/

- Clearly state the name of your organization or group, name of your Director or Leader, and contact information.
- Affirm your status as a nonprofit organization as determined by the IRS, or operate under the fiscal sponsorship of a tax-exempt nonprofit, including schools and public organizations.
- State the intended service provision to include intended number of people served, proposed outcomes, and funding level requested to meet those outcome goals.
- Affirm that the request falls within the funding priority noted above.
- Affirm that all activities for which you are seeking funding will be located in Weld County or exclusively for the citizens of Weld County, Colorado.

Please note that the senior leader for an Applicant Organization such as CEO, President, Superintendent, Provost, Executive Director, etc. will be required to submit a Letter of Support along with the full proposal should an invitation for such be extended.

Contact Information

For more information concerning The Weld Trust Community Education Grants Program, please contact:

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