

Innovative Computer Science Lab

2020 JJF Champions Grant Program

Jimmie Johnson Foundation

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LOI Form

LOI Instructions

Before beginning your LOI*

We highly recommend that every school interested in submitting a Champions Grant LOI participate in an Information Call.

Please note that priority will be given to schools that participate in Information Calls/Meetings. Calls will be offered until April 21st. **CLICK HERE** to register for a call if you have not already participated.

Please indicate whether you participated in a 2020 Champions Grant Information Call below.

I DID participate in an Information Call

Please review the following before completing the LOI:

- The LOI will only be accepted via this system
- Submitting an LOI does not guarantee the opportunity to submit a full proposal.
- Schools that do not submit an LOI will not be able to request funding from the JJF
- All questions marked with an asterisk (*) are required. Be sure to read all questions carefully and follow all instructions provided.
- Character limits in text boxes include spaces as well as characters.
- Save your work! The system auto-saves periodically, but it is a good idea to manually save as well. Unfortunately, unsaved work cannot be recovered if lost.
- There is no spell check within the system. You might want to prepare your responses in a Word document first, then copy and paste it into the online application. Spelling and grammar do matter, so please be sure to review your responses before submitting.
- Once your LOI is submitted you will not be able to make any additional edits.

Deadline Agreement*

The Champions Grant LOI must be submitted by **3:00pm ET on Friday, April 24, 2020***. If the project outlined in your LOI meets the Champions Grant eligibility requirements, your school will be invited to complete and submit a full application for the approved project.

LOIs will be reviewed as they are submitted (on a rolling basis), but it can take up to 2-weeks from the date of submission for Foundation staff to complete the review process and inform schools of their status.

Do not wait to submit your LOI. We recommend that you submit your LOI as early as possible to ensure you have plenty of time to complete the full application, if selected.

Schools that do not submit an LOI by the deadline will not have the opportunity to complete and submit an application, and therefore, are not eligible to receive Champions Grant funding.

***PLEASE NOTE: Charlotte Mecklenburg School District requires that schools submit their LOI no later than March**

21st.

I understand that I must submit the LOI no later than 3:00pm ET on 4/24/20.

Eligibility, Frequently Asked Questions and Sample LOI

Thank you for your interest in the Champions Grant program. In order to be considered, schools in eligible districts must first submit a Letter of Interest (LOI). The LOI will assist JJF staff in determining whether a proposed project fits within the guidelines outlined in the FAQs.

Schools that submit LOIs for eligible projects will be invited to complete a full Champions Grant application. The full application expands on questions asked in the LOI, and requires the school to provide detailed information about their proposed project, including an itemized budget, vendor quotes, detailed Outputs and Outcomes, etc.

LOIs must be submitted by **3:00pm ET on Friday, April 24, 2020*** in order to be considered to complete a full application. It's best to submit early.

Schools that do not submit an LOI by the deadline are not eligible to apply for funding.

****CMS schools must submit their LOI by March 21st.***

Eligibility

K-12 public schools in the following districts are eligible to submit an LOI:

- Cajon Valley Union School District (CA)
- Grossmont Union High School District (CA)
- San Diego Unified School District (CA)
- Cabarrus County Schools (NC)
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (NC)
- Muskogee Independent School District 20 (OK)
- Hilldale Public Schools (OK)

Charter schools located within the geographic boundaries of the districts listed above and charter schools in Tulsa, OK are also eligible.

Schools in eligible districts and eligible charter schools must be open, fully operational and serving students for a minimum of 2 years in order to apply for a Champions Grant.

Parent/Teacher organizations, pre-schools, private or parochial schools, non-profit and/or community organizations are not eligible to apply for a Champions Grant on their own or on behalf of a school.

District Guidelines

Before completing and submitting this LOI, please review your school district's grant guidelines. Applications that do not follow the district instructions will not be considered.

CLICK HERE to review the district guidelines and information.

Frequently Asked Questions

All applicants are required to read the Champions Grant FAQs before beginning the LOI. This document contains requirements for being considered for a grant, and provides answers to the most commonly asked questions about the program.

CLICK HERE to read the FAQs.

Sample LOI

CLICK HERE to download and view a SAMPLE Champions Grant LOI. This sample LOI will provide you with a better idea of the kind of information we are looking for from applicants.

Confirmation*

Please confirm that you have read the Eligibility Requirements, District Guidelines, FAQs and reviewed the Sample LOI.

Yes, I have reviewed all of this information and agree to follow all instructions provided.

School Information

How many students attend your school?*

858

How many students will be served by this project?*

Please only include students who would directly benefit if the proposed project was funded. It is appropriate to include the entire student body if, and only if, the entire student body will participate in and directly benefit from, the proposed project.

This number should match the number of students measured in your Outputs and Outcomes.

858

Is your school at least 2 years old?*

In order to be eligible for consideration, schools must be open and fully operational (serving students) for a minimum of 2 years.

Yes

What year was your school incorporated?*

2000

Project Details

Title of Project or Program*

Innovative Computer Science Lab

Please describe your proposed project*

Please explain what you are planning to do and how you are planning to do it. *Be sure to review the FAQs to ensure that your proposed project meets Champions Grant guidelines.*

We plan to create a new Computer Science Lab where students can develop apps for the iPad, iPhone and Android devices. The lab will consist of 30 MacBook Pro laptops that have powerful processing speeds and optimal RAM to support computer-programming applications. Students will create animations using computer-programming language, and create apps for mobile use. This program is based on the success of "Girls Who Code" 8-week course which reports 100% of the participants are definitely more likely to pursue a career in computer science.

What is the critical need the proposed project will address?*

Please be specific in describing the need, and how the proposed project addresses the need.

Sample Middle School needs to integrate academic and career-technology while meeting gender equity needs. People who identify as female earn only 12% of computer science degrees. Currently, only 10% of the students who identify as female in our school have shown an interest in computer science opportunities. By offering computer programming in middle school, more girls will be drawn to programming in a fun and simple way that will motivate them to pursue careers in technology. By creating computer science as a middle school elective, all students in grades 5-8 will have the opportunity to develop innovative programming skills. This practical use of technology is designed to give students a skill that increases their innovation power in the workforce while opening gender diversity in the computer science field.

Which category does your proposed project fall into?*

Please select the category that best describes your project. You may select more than one.

Science and Technology

School Improvement/Infrastructure and Technology Projects*

Please note that if your project is a school improvement/infrastructure project or involves purchasing technology (hardware and/or software), you will be required to provide completed plans (school improvement/infrastructure) and written approval from the appropriate district department (both school improvement/infrastructure and technology) if selected to complete a full application.

If your project falls into either of these categories, you must agree. If not, please select N/A.

I understand and agree to provide the required approvals if selected to complete a full application.

Funding amount being requested from the Jimmie Johnson Foundation*

Please do not estimate. This amount should be based on researching actual prices of items you would purchase if your project was funded.

Please note that, if invited to submit a full application, there cannot be more than \$10,000 difference between this amount and the amount you include on the itemized budget required as part of the application.

\$63,289.25

How would the funds be spent?*

If you were to receive funding, what items would you purchase and how would they assist you in addressing the critical need identified in the Project Description. Be specific. **All items purchased must be from vendors approved by the district. It is the school's responsibility to confirm that vendors are district approved.**

Please note that Champions Grant funds cannot be used for salaries, stipends, artists in residence, memorials, consultant fees, field trips, travel expenses, vehicles, scholarships, modular/mobile classrooms, capital/construction projects (new construction, expansion, renovation, or replacement of an existing facility) or third party funding (ex: paying an outside group to facilitate a program).

If selected to submit a full application, you will be required to complete a detailed, itemized budget and provide vendor quotes.

We plan to purchase 30 MacBook Pro 13-inch laptops, 30 AppleCare protection plans, 1 Bretford Mobility Cart (capacity 30), and pay the eWaste recycling fee required by the state of California.

The laptops will be used by students to learn computer programming skills and to create mobile apps. By purchasing 30 laptops, we will have the hardware necessary to accommodate the maximum number of students per class period.

Proposed project goals and anticipated outcomes*

Please describe in detail what you plan to achieve if your school were to receive funding for the proposed project (must include quantitative data points). A minimum of 3 outputs and 3 outcomes are required, and must include at least one that measures growth of some sort. The number of students measured is required.

Note: Outputs and Outcomes can include data you are already gathering through things like benchmarking, End

of Year tests, etc. It is appropriate to use these as long as the information directly relates to your proposed project.

1. OUTPUT 1: 858 students will be served by this project this school year. OUTCOME 1: Each student will log at least 10 hours per quarter in the Computer Science Lab.
2. OUTPUT 2: 858 students will complete a survey on career choices both before and after the 12-week course. OUTCOME 2: By the end of the 12-week course, we anticipate a 20% overall increase in the number of students who select Computer Science as a career goal, and an increase of 30% among our students who identify as female.
3. OUTPUT 3: 858 student projects will complete an end of course project, which will be evaluated by a teacher-created rubric. OUTCOME 3: 80% of student projects will score above 90%.

How do you plan to measure the success of the proposed project?*

Please include details such as measurement tools and timeline for measurements.

OUTPUT/OUTCOME 1: We will use a sign in sheet and attendance records to track student visits to the Computer Science Lab. This will be tracked each term (January-March; April-June; September-November).

OUTPUT/OUTCOME 2: We will create pre- and post- surveys based on information provided by "Girls Who Code" as well as local college/university partners. Surveys will be given at the beginning and end of each 12-week course.

OUTPUT/OUTCOME 3: Sample Middle School teachers will create a rubric to score student projects. These will be used at the end of each 12-week course.

Agreement and Approval

Champions Grant LOI Agreement*

By checking the box below, I acknowledge understanding of the following:

- Submitting this LOI does not guarantee my school the opportunity to complete a full application.
- LOIs will be reviewed as they are submitted (on a rolling basis), but it can take up to 2-weeks from the date of submission for my school to be notified of our status.
- If my school is invited to complete a full application, I can only apply for the proposed project included in this LOI, for the amount included in this LOI.
- Schools invited to complete a full application must submit all required application materials by **8:00pm ET on Friday, May 29th.**

Yes, I acknowledge and understand

Principal Approval of Proposed Project*

CLICK HERE to download and print the Principal Signature Form. The school principal must read and sign this form, indicating that he or she has reviewed the LOI and agrees to fully support the project if the school is invited to apply and is selected to receive funding.

Upload the Principal Signature Form by clicking on the **Upload a file** button below. Please note that the form must be submitted as a PDF.

Sample MS LOI Signature Page.pdf

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Sample MS LOI Signature Page.pdf



Approval of Principal – Signature Page (LOI)

I have reviewed the entire LOI and approve of the proposed project submitted.

Principal Signature Jenny Mauer Date 11/3/20

Principal Name Jenny Mauer

1. Parent/Teacher Organizations in the districts listed below are not eligible to submit an LOI or apply for a Champions Grant independent of the school. PTO's may work with school to apply for funding, but the project must be managed by and LOI/application must be submitted by the school and must follow all district guidelines and requirements. **Projects not managed by or submitted by the school will not be considered.**

Cabarrus County Schools applicants – Please contact Ronnye Boone in the CCS Communications and Public Information Department (ronnye.boone@cabarrus.k12.nc.us) at least 10 business days prior to submitting application. This will allow sufficient time to obtain the necessary approvals and to ensure compliance with the CCS Grant Guidelines. The grant guidelines are available on the CCS Intranet. This includes applications written with the assistance of PTAs/PTOs.

Cajon Valley Union School District applicants – Please submit a copy of your application to Naomie Rodrigues at rodriguesn@cajonvalley.net or provide a copy to the Superintendent's Office prior to submission.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools applicants – Please contact the CMS Grant Innovation Team at 980-343-6229 or grants@cms.k12.nc.us. Prior approval to apply and submit grants must be obtained from the district per CMS Board policy to ensure grant compliance. This includes applications written with the assistance of PTAs/PTOs. Applicants should allow plenty of time to secure the required signatures and approvals. ***ALL CMS schools must submit their LOI by March 21 to ensure time for School Board approval.***

Grossmont Union High School District applicants – Please contact Thelma M. Stevenson at tstevenson@guhsd.net prior to submitting application to ensure compliance with GUHSD grant application policies and procedures.

Muskogee Public Schools applicants – Applicants should fill out the district Request Approval to Apply for All Grants form, which can be found under Employee Resources on the MPS webpage. Prior approval to apply for all grants must be obtained from the district and finalized by the Chief Financial Officer. MPS asks that applicants allow plenty of time to secure the required signatures and approvals. Questions? Contact Shannon Turner at shannon.turner@roughers.net or (918) 684-3700 x 1655.

San Diego Unified School District applicants – Please contact Ron Rode, Director, Office of Research and Evaluation at rrode@sandi.net or 619-725-7190 prior to submitting application.

Submission Instructions

Please upload this completed form to the JJF Grants Management site, following the instructions provided within the LOI.