



How to Win a Grant to Fund Your Wonder Workshop Project

Here are our recommendations on finding and writing a grant for your Wonder Workshop purchase.

Grant Finding Recommendations

- First, look at your local school district grants and community grants; as there is less competition with local grants which means an increased likelihood for success. These grants can be found on through asking district administrators, on your district's website or through a Google search for education grants in your area.
- Second, look at local corporation grants and association (members only) grants for opportunities in funding. Look at the website of any associations you are a member of or perform a Google search for education grants in your area.
- Third, look at federal grants, formula grants, and national foundation grants. These grants have more competition, but they also typically yield a greater return. These grants can be found through the US Department of Education or from a Google search.
- To stay up to date with new grants, you can turn on Google Alerts for education grants.

Gather Your Data

- Estimate the total cost of your project, from changes in learning environment to materials and supplies for implementation. Keep copies of quotes for products, materials, and shipping costs to add to your plan.
- Collect information on students your project will serve, including your school's report card, bio's of team members for project, plus community demographics. Estimate the number of students served the first year and subsequent years, including how many years you plan on using robotics and coding or how you plan to extend usage. Mention anything that will set your school apart from others.
- Create your plan using the sample questions, data collected, remembering to include your partners & their roles in the plan, timetable for training & implementation of project, and assessment & data collection of project's impact.

Sample Questions

Although questions vary from grant to grant, here are some common questions along with tips and sample answers.

- What is the problem you want to solve? Is this a pilot project or are you looking to expand your school's current use of robotics and coding?
Explain why this project is needed in your school or community. Make sure to point out anything that sets your school apart from others.
Example: We currently do not have computer science instruction in our elementary school and we want to start introducing students to critical thinking and problem solving skills through robots that teach coding.
- What are your goals and objectives for this project? Why will students be motivated by this project?



Explain your goals and the objectives.

Example: Our goal is to increase student understanding and interest in computer science.

One of our objectives is to introduce students to block based coding with Dash & Dot.

Coding and robotics encourages hands on learning, which is proven to increase student motivation.

- Why is this project innovative?

Dash & Dot are award-winning robots that teach K-8 students creative problem solving, coding, and robotics. Designed for teachers to use alongside classroom-tested, Common Core-aligned curriculum built by fellow educators. Dash & Dot robots encourage interest in STEM fields at formative ages and across gender lines.
- How is this project aligned to standards?

Wonder Workshop offers two curriculum packages: Learn to Code Curriculum and Code to Learn Lesson Library. [Learn to Code Curriculum](#) is aligned to Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) Computer Science Standards and the [Code to Learn Lesson Library](#) is aligned to ISTE and Common Core Standards.
- How will you implement this project in your school?

Elaborate on any training or professional development teachers will receive and the number of students impacted.
Example: Wonder Workshop provides online training videos to help set up the robots. The educator packs also include lesson plans for easy implementation. We will be rolling out the project in one classroom, grade level, makerspace, entire school, district wide, etc.
- How will students use the robots and apps in the classroom, makerspace, etc?

Example: Students will work in collaborative groups of two to five peers solving puzzles and challenges to build 21st century skills like communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity.
- How will you assess student learning while utilizing robots and coding?

Assessment of academic achievements will be made through observations, rubrics, checklists, self and peer assessment, student record keeping, and reflective journaling.
- Who will you be partnering with to implement and possibly fund your project?

Example: Principal, grade level teachers, district department, or parent association.
- Do you have a grant coordinator for your district to assist in the development of your plan and/or the actual writing of the grant? What roles will each person have for this project?

Example: Ms. Smith will be the project designer, Ms. Johnson will be the grant writer, Ms. Enriquez will be the trainer, and Ms. Smith, Ms. Johnson, & Ms. Enriquez will start the pilot program. Provide qualifications and responsibilities of each individual.
- What are some of the predictable student outcomes from using robotics and coding?

Students develop an increase in design thinking, computational thinking, spatial awareness, scientific thinking, mathematical thinking, and creative storytelling through the use of Wonder Workshop's robots and apps.
- Description of Wonder Workshop Product:

Dash & Dot robots interact through Wonder Workshop's five mobile applications, allowing children to extend learning into the physical classroom and bring STEM concepts to life.



Applications for Dash & Dot are intuitive to allow students to translate ideas into visual, picture-based coding.

- Wonder Workshop Testimonials: [Testimonials](#)
- Wonder Workshop Case Study: [Case Study](#)

Tips & Tricks for Grants

- Make sure to tell your story in a compelling articulate way. Why are you passionate about this project? What makes your project stand out? What is unique about this project?
- Check the steps to complete the grant writing process. Does the grant require a letter of intent as the first part of the grant application? Or does the grant require a letter of inquiry as the first evaluation of your initiative?
- Remember to make sure you have all the support documents that are needed either before or after the completion of the project (i.e. photos, testimonials, and student observations).
- Check to see when the date(s) for notifying applicants will be. This way if your grant isn't accepted, you could still have time to apply to another funding source.
- Remember, many grants have a set timeline for when the project has to be completed. Make sure your timeline for implementation matches the funding partner's timeline.