



Kids In Need Teacher Grants

The SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation Teacher Grants program provides certified K-12 teachers with funding to conduct innovative classroom projects. With generous support from the business community, the Foundation is proud to assist our most creative and important educational resource – our nation’s teachers.

How are the Teacher Grants funded? The grants are funded by sponsors, retailers such as Jo-Ann Stores, Inc., Office Depot, Fred Meyer, Publix, and others. Funds are distributed directly to the teachers.

How many Teacher Grants are awarded each year? For the 2006-07 academic year, the Kids In Need Foundation awarded more than \$110,000 to 270 teachers from a field of more than 2,400 grant applications. Teacher Grant awards range from \$100 to \$500 each and are used to finance creative classroom projects.

What is the selection criteria? Applications go through a four-tiered assessment process which emphasizes innovativeness and merit, clarity of objectives, replication feasibility, suitability of evaluation methods, and cost effectiveness. Members of the Foundation’s Teacher Grants Committee complete the final round of evaluations in late October.

Who is eligible? All certified K-12 teachers are encouraged to apply for a Kids In Need Teacher Grants.

What types of projects are funded? Examples of winning projects include:

Preserving the Past for the Future – This combined art and history project paid tribute to World War II General George S. Patton. Students painted three murals on the 48-foot trailer that houses the General Patton Desert Training Center Mobile Museum. The museum tours the country, honoring the general and other veterans of WWII.

Charged Cars – Math in Motion – Students designed and built a battery operated vehicle with a wheelbase of 40 cm designed to be mathematically accurate to travel and stop at any designated point between one and 10 meters.



Winning projects are developed into lesson plans that are published in the program’s *Best Practices Guide*. The *Guide* is distributed to teachers throughout the nation free of charge and is available on the Foundation’s Web site at www.kidsinneed.net.

How can teachers apply? Teachers can complete and submit applications online at www.kidsinneed.net. Some retail sponsors also have applications available in their stores. Applications are accepted from July 15 to September 30 each year.

SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation is a national non-profit organization providing school supplies to impoverished children and under-funded teachers. A 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 1995 by the School, Home, & Office Products Association (SHOPA), the Foundation’s mission is to recognize, promote, and support initiatives that foster educational excellence. The National Network of Kids in Need Resource Centers includes 23 facilities that allow teachers from low-income schools to obtain free school supplies for their students. In addition, Kids In Need Teacher Grants provide K-12 educators with funding to provide innovative learning opportunities for students. The SHOPA Kids in Need Foundation has distributed more than \$230 million in school supplies since its founding, directly benefiting 1.5 million students and 100,000 teachers annually, and has awarded more than \$771,000 in grants to teachers. For more information, visit www.kidsinneed.net.