

EXPANDING ARTS ACCESS IN RURAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FY27 Grant Guidelines

Purpose

This grant opportunity supports Idaho rural school districts and rural charter schools in providing fine arts, performing arts, and design programs. Funds granted are intended to increase access to arts education for K-12 learners in rural public schools that otherwise may lack the resources to offer or expand such programs.

Eligibility and Restrictions

An applicant must be an Idaho rural school district or Idaho rural charter school as defined in [Idaho Code, Title 33, Chapter 3, Section 33-319](#).

Each eligible rural school district or rural charter school may submit one application (i.e., one application per rural school district and one application per rural charter school.) Applicants are advised to coordinate one grant request across schools and programs.

Applications must be submitted by leadership of the district or charter school. Applications from individual teachers without leadership endorsement are ineligible. Multiple applications from the same district or charter school will not be funded.

Request Amount

Applicants may request up to \$1,000 in one-time, non-matching funds. Only one application per school district or charter school will be accepted.

Submission Period

Applications may be submitted from August 31, 2026 to September 30, 2026.

Grant Period

Funds are active November 2, 2026 - June 30, 2027.

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Eligible Uses of Funds

Funds may be used to purchase equipment, supplies, and curricular materials that support the establishment of, or improvements to arts education programs. The needs of multiple schools, departments, and programs may be included in a single application.

Examples of Eligible Uses of Funds

The following are some examples of eligible uses of funds. The grants may support—but are not limited to—the following:

- Purchase of online curriculum materials in the arts.
- Purchase of technology and software to offer fine and performing arts courses, and design courses that are not part of the Career and Technical Education curriculum.
- Purchase and repair of instruments to start or expand a band or orchestra program in multiple schools.
- Purchase of materials to upgrade or enhance set design capabilities for a theatre program.
- Visual art equipment and supplies such as stools, easels, paints, and brushes.
- Purchase of a printing press to offer a printmaking course.
- Purchase of a kiln and ceramic supplies.

Funding Restrictions

Funds may not be used for the following purposes:

- Personnel or instructional contracted services costs.
- Professional development activities.
- Design courses that are part of the Career and Technical Education curriculum.

Application Components

Applications are submitted through [Reviewr](#). Completed applications will include the following required components:

- District or charter school registration in Reviewr, requiring pre-approval during normal business hours.
- Applicant general information and approval of the grant application submission by an authorizing official.
- Answers to the following five narrative questions:
 1. Request summary: Brief summary of request
 2. Population served and need to be addressed: Briefly describe your school district or charter school, the population this grant would serve, and the needs this grant would help to meet.
 3. Proposal Description: Briefly describe how you intend to use the funds.

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4. Anticipated Demand: Describe anticipated student demand for the course or programs supported by this grant request.
 5. Sustainability Plan: Provide a sustainability plan for ongoing support of the arts curricula supported by this grant request.
- Budget form that includes itemized expenses and a total request amount. The maximum grant award is \$1,000. Any expenses exceeding \$1,000 will be the responsibility of the applicant district.
 - Additional attachments illustrating request are optional.

Process

This grant opportunity is administered by Idaho State Board of Education.

Grant applications are submitted through the online [Reviewr](#) portal. Final funding decisions are made by the Idaho State Board of Education.

Applications will be reviewed for eligibility and recommendations for funding will be made by the Idaho State Board of Education. Applicants will be notified of process results in October 2026.

Project Change Requests

Applications who wish to request approval for changes to their approved grant spending plan will email nwagner@edu.idaho.gov. Change requests include a summary of the proposed change and an updated project budget.

Final Report

This grant requires a final report, including a summary of project impact and a list of itemized expenses, to be submitted upon project completion or by July 31, 2027, whichever comes first, in <https://my.reviewr.com>.

Return of Unspent Funds

Awardees who do not expend all grant funds must note this in the final report. All unspent funds must be returned to the State of Idaho. Awardees with unspent funds will be directed to submit a paper check, along with a brief explanation, to:

Idaho State Board of Education, ATTN: Fiscal. 650 W State Street, Room 307, Boise, ID 83702.

Grant funds must be expended within the FY2027 fiscal year. Any funds not spent within FY2027 must be returned to the State Board of Education. If expenditures occur outside of the FY2027 fiscal year, those costs will be the responsibility of the district and may be applied to a subsequent fiscal year budget.

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Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applications will be reviewed against the following criteria:

- The learning needs of the population served are clearly stated.
- The proposal addresses these learning needs.
- The applicant provides a plan to sustain the activities supported by this grant application.
- The budget for the use of funds is clear, complete, and supports the need as stated.

Funding Priority

Awards for eligible applications will be made until available funds are fully committed:

- Applications will be considered in order of submission date and time, provided all requirements are met.