IEA Foundation SCORE Grants
Frequently Asked Questions

What does SCORE stand for?
The acronym SCORE was selected to represent Schools and Community Outreach by Educators.

What is the purpose of the SCORE grants?
Grants for up to $1,000 are available for IEA members and their local associations to collaborate and create opportunities for community service or school projects.

Who can apply?
All IEA members are encouraged to apply. Please note: The selection rubric used to review applications has been updated to provide the following incentives: project proposals by member pairs that include an early career member, application ideas related to the challenges resulting from COVID-19 and/or social justice. The advisory group has recommended funding in the past for member pairs and trios that demonstrate collaboration between veteran and early career members. Educators with more than 10 years of membership are able to apply with, or without, a partner. You can visit this page, scroll down a bit and find a list of previous projects for ideas.

What types of projects are typically funded?
We discourage applications requesting funds for instructional materials or field trips. Grants are typically awarded to applicants that demonstrate their proposal focuses on volunteering or community service, or is a partnership opportunity with an organization and/or community-based entity. (i.e. church, mosque, synagogue, boys/girls club, chamber of commerce, trade union, community organization, League of Women Voters, Farm Bureau, FFA, shelter, not for profit agency, YMCA, coalition, other association, sorority, fraternity, other entity, etc.)

The categories of projects that typically get funded include community partnerships, enrichment, fine arts, outdoors and STEM. An archive of past funded projects can be found on the IEA website at www.ieanea.org/score.

How much money is typically awarded?
Grant proposals of $1,000 or less are encouraged in order to fund as many projects as possible. Proposals for more than $1,000 will be considered, but may not be completely funded.

I have an idea for more than $1,000. Should I still apply?
Absolutely! However, we reserve the right to partially fund the project.

I have an idea for less than $1,000. Should I still apply?
Absolutely! Many successful applications proposed project ideas that requested $500 or less.

How are SCORE grants funded?
IEA members, regions, and outside donors contribute to the IEA Foundation which funds SCORE grants.

Who reviews the applications and makes the decision about which ones to fund?
An advisory group uses a rubric to review all submitted, completed applications. A copy of the rubric is available on the website for your review in advance of submitting your application. The advisory group is made up of IEA leaders, members, and staff who then make recommendations to the IEA Foundation trustees.

What have I committed to if my project is chosen?
If you are selected as a grant recipient, you have committed to an online training with other grant recipients and a face-to-face networking session where you will meet other grant recipients. This has been extremely helpful to past participants. We collected data throughout the school year about their impressions of IEA, their willingness to be involved and what other additional resources they needed. As a result of being a SCORE recipient many of them were able to better explain who IEA is and why their membership is worthwhile. They saw a relevance to their association at the state and local levels in that this opportunity met a need that otherwise would have gone unfulfilled.

I am not a Pre K-12 classroom teacher. Can I still apply?
Yes! We welcome applications from all educators that are IEA members: teachers, education support professionals, higher ed faculty and staff, and others who are IEA members.

How do I submit my application?
All SCORE grant applications should be submitted online. You can submit your application at www.ieanea.org/score. To find more information about how to submit your application, including an application preview, grant guidelines, and rubric for project proposals, please visit https://ieanea.org/score/how-to-apply-for-a-score-grant/.

I have more questions about the SCORE grant program. Who should I contact?
Please contact the IEA staff for the SCORE grant program at score@ieanea.org