

Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc.

2008-09 Teacher Grants

Statement of Intent

Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc.'s Teacher Grant program strives to fund classroom projects that teach Florida school children about the importance of agriculture and introduce them to agricultural producers and representatives in their areas.

Timeline

Proposals due to the FAITC office ... Oct. 1, 2008 Announcement of awards ... October or November 2008 by mail Progress report due to the FAITC office, and all funds encumbered ... Dec. 12, 2008 Final report due to the FAITC office ... April 30, 2009

Eligible Applicants

Certified Florida teachers engaged in classroom instruction at the kindergarten through 12th grade levels who integrate agricultural concepts into non-agricultural curricula. Due to the fact that Agri-Science teachers are already familiar with agriculture, and represent a large portion of Florida Ag in the Classroom's Volunteer base they are eligible for funding through the Volunteer Grant Program which is available first of the year.

Grant Requirements

- Agricultural concepts must be used.
- Students must be directly involved.
- The use of Florida Ag in the Classroom curricula and/or materials must be demonstrated in the application and in the final report. If the use of Florida Ag in the Classroom materials is not included in the application, it will be disqualified.
- At least one local farmer or agriculture industry representative must be involved in the project in some way as a classroom speaker, project helper or sponsor.
- Teachers must give students involved in the grant project pre and post-tests, and include the results of these tests in the final report.
- Community involvement in the project is encouraged, and a list of in-kind contributions from the community should be listed in the application.
- A detailed budget with estimated expenses listed in spreadsheet form must be included in the application.

Funding Guidelines

- Transportation will only be considered in situations where there is a justifiable need.
- Grant money can not be used for consumables unless the food items are an integral part of the lesson plan and the end product.
- Grant checks not cashed within 60 days after receipt will become null and void.
- Half of the money is paid up front and the other half is paid when the Progress Report is submitted. A Final Report must be submitted by the deadline or future grant requests automatically will be denied.
- Grant checks will be made payable to the school, not to an individual.

Judging Criteria	Points
Ability to increase student understanding of Florida agriculture	25
Planned program approach to integrating agricultural concepts in the classroom	25
Creativity, innovation and ability to address issues of concern to Florida agriculture	20
Extent of use of Florida Ag in the Classroom curricula and materials (Keeping Florida Green and Project Food, Land and People)	5
Timeline and logistics	5

Management and Reporting

- Brief (less than one page) summary of project progress is due on or before Dec. 12, 2008.
- Florida Ag in the Classroom must receive copies of all related materials in a printable format.
- The final report must include original receipts and documentation of expenses in spreadsheet form.
- The final report should include the number of students the project actually reached and the results of the pre- and posttests. Please include photos.
- The final report is due by April 30, 2009. Afterward, any developments with the project should be submitted in a letter at the end of the school year.
- Failure to comply with these reporting requirements will result in the automatic removal of the teacher from consideration for future grant requests.

Format for Proposals

1. Must be typed on 8 ½ inch by 11 inch white paper in 12-point type. (Proposals can be typed directly on the application provided or that form can be duplicated in a word processing program.)
2. Limited to the two-page application form, which will provide a thorough explanation of implementation of the project and evaluation plans.
3. Include an attachment detailing the project's budget, and in-kind contributions.
4. Include a time line.
5. Include a title page that lists the project's name and the contact person's name, address, phone number and email address.
6. Include a letter of support from a school administrator.
7. Submit eight copies of the proposal. Failure to submit the required number of copies will result in automatic disqualification.

Proposal Submission

The deadline for submitting grant proposals to the Florida Ag in the Classroom office is Oct. 1, 2008. (Proposals must be postmarked on or before Oct. 1, 2008.)

Completed proposals should be mailed to:

Mailing Address:
 Florida Ag in the Classroom
 P.O. Box 110015
 Gainesville, FL 32611-0015

Physical Address (for
 overnight packages):
 Florida Ag in the Classroom
 University of Florida
 Building 440, Mowry Road
 Gainesville, FL 32611-0015
 Attention: Lisa Gaskalla

Questions:

Contact Lisa Gaskalla by
 calling (352) 846-1391, by
 emailing, gaskalla@ufl.edu or
 visit www.agtag.org

