

Grants and Research Office (GRO)

INNOVATION THROUGH COLLABORATION
Intermediate Districts 287 and Northeast Metro 916



GRO-o-gram

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LESSON STUDY TO SUPPORT DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Facilitator: Pete Ziegler, Executive Director, Minnesota River Valley Education District

Visit <http://www.prepcenter.org> for registration information.

HIGH SCHOOL REFORM: PERSONALIZING THE HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Wednesday, August 15, 2007 and Thursday, August 16, 2007

Facilitator: Joseph A. DiMartino, Director - Secondary School Redesign Education Alliance, Brown University

Visit <http://www.prepcenter.org> for registration information.

GRANT HELP

Online grant writing resources: Visit <http://www.educationworld.com/> for help with basic grant writing and search techniques.

GRANT DEADLINES

Captain Planet Foundation Education Grants: June 30, 2007

The Foundation supports projects that: 1) Promote understanding of environmental issues; 2) Focus on hands-on involvement; 3) Involve children and young adults 6-18 (elementary through high school); 4) Promote interaction and cooperation within the group; 5) Help young people develop planning and problem-solving skills; 6)

Include adult supervision; 7) Commit to follow-up communication with the Foundation (specific requirements are explained once the grant has been awarded).

Focus Areas: Community involvement/volunteerism, science/environmental, social studies, all other

Recipients: Public school/other

Average Amount: Up to \$2,500

Contact: Taryn Murphy, 404-522-4215, tarynm@captainplanetfdn.org

Website: <<http://www.captainplanetfdn.org/aboutUs.html>>

Availability: All states

ING Foundation: September 14, 2007

ING grants are intended to assist nonprofit organizations in motivating individuals to assume personal responsibility for their financial well-being.

Focus Areas: Arts/culture, financial literacy, education, and health/wellness

Program Limitations/Restrictions: ING does not consider grant requests under \$5,000.

Geographic Focus: Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Areas outside Minnesota, National Areas

Areas of Interest: EDUCATION - adult/continuing education/literacy, educational reform, educational services, graduate education/professional schools, higher education, pre-school/elementary, secondary, vocational/technical

EMPLOYMENT/JOB - employment procurement/job training, vocational rehabilitation

Website: <<http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/communityconnections>>

GRANTSEEKING FOR BEGINNERS

The Minnesota Council on Foundations' "**Grantseeking for Beginners**" seminar is being held September 20, 2007 at the Continuing Education and Conference Center at the University of Minnesota – St. Paul Campus. The cost is \$95.00; registration deadline is September 13. This popular seminar provides essential information for grantseekers interested in learning the basics of grantwriting.

The Grantseeking for Beginners seminar will help you:

- Be more effective in researching potential sources for grant support
- Gain an understanding of good proposal development process, and pinpoint key elements and information to include in your grant proposals
- See the proposal review and decision-making process from a grantmaker's point of view during a grantmaker panel discussion.

This seminar will address foundation and corporate giving only. It will not cover government funding sources.

Questions? Contact the Minnesota Council on Foundations, 612-338-1989

E-mail: <<http://www.mcf.org/MCF/forms/info.htm>>

Website: <<http://www.mcf.org/MCF/grant/beginners.htm>>

FIVE TIPS FOR FOUNDATION GRANT WRITING

- Have a clear idea and an outline of a proposal before searching for funding. Be specific.
- Find out exactly how much the project will cost before you search for funding.
- Know who will benefit special needs, ethnicity, geographic area, etc.
- Apply to more than one foundation.
- Focus on client (student or teacher) benefits, not benefits for your organization.

Over half of Minnesota's foundations use a common grant proposal template consisting of:

1. Letter of inquiry - general overview - 1 page (who we are, geographic location, what the requested amount of the grant is, what the money is for, who would benefit)
2. Body of grant proposal - usually 5 pages maximum (background of organization, budget, objectives of grant proposal, timeline for proposal, timing)

For foundation funding, there is a lag between when the grant proposal is due and when the money is awarded - maybe as much as 6-8 months. Early planning is essential. Corporations have a quick turn-around time. They do not have boards and deadlines as formal as those at the foundations.

Find more grant writing tips on the Grants and Research Office website, under Grant Help <<http://www.grantsandresearchhelp.us/>>

Barbara Wojcik, GRO Grants Manager & GRO-o-gram Editor

Send comments, suggestions, and ideas to: barbara.wojcik@nemetrol12.mn.us