



**CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER
OF THE TWIN TIER REGION**

182 East Union Street, Suite 2
Allegany, NY 14706

Director; Reann Ehman
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September 2024

We are pleased to announce that, through the generosity of private donors and foundations, the Challenger Learning Center of the Twin Tier Region will have a limited number of mini-grants available for schools and school districts during the 2024-25 academic year. We recognize your dedication to incorporate STEM initiatives into your curriculum and understand that the mission experience is a valuable tool for the application of science and technology and an integral part of New York & Pennsylvania Core Curriculum Standards.

For your school to apply for these grants, the following steps need to be taken:

- Register for this year's missions so that we can secure the dates and times best suited for you and your students (mission registration enclosed). Mini-grant preferences will be given to schools who schedule missions between October-April.
- Fill out the Request for Grant Funding sheet (2nd page) and enclose your letter describing your needs/reasons for applying. There are two review periods for awarding grants: early October for missions scheduled between October-December, and early December for missions scheduled between January-June.
- Challenger Missions can be booked all school year from September to June; however ***Mini-Grants will be given only to those schools booking October – April.***

There are other initiatives your school can pursue to offset the cost of attending a mission: (1) Contact local groups in your area (foundations, churches, Knights of Columbus, etc.) to inquire about funding assistance for your classes; (2) Approach parent groups for funding; (3) Run a school fundraiser specifically for a mission trip; and (4) We are happy to make presentations to any groups interested in securing funds for your school. There are many possibilities to secure funding, and we want to ensure that every opportunity is presented to your school.

If you have any questions, please let us know and thank you for your continued interest in the Challenger Learning Center of the Twin Tier Region.

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Request for mini-grant funding

The Challenger Learning Center of the Twin Tier Region has set aside grant monies to assist schools in need of funding a mission, due to the ongoing financial struggles. Mini-grant funding preferences will be given to schools who are new to our center, and schools who schedule missions October-April. Any school seeking financial aid must first register, sending the two pages of the registration, with a letter requesting a specific financial aid amount well in advance of an anticipated scheduled mission. We are noting on the confirmation letters that this is not a contractual, financial obligation for the school until the grants from CLCTTR Board of Directors have been awarded. At that time, the school will have the option of canceling without penalty or accepting the aid with the remainder of their school's financial obligation. You will, of course, receive the confirmation letter or e-mail for your records confirming this, but please note the Board has been very clear that they will not approve 100% financial aid. Rather, they are willing to assist schools in their efforts to participate in our programs. Thank you for your interest in promoting STEM for our area youth.

Name of Institution _____

Address _____

Contact Person _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Number of registered Missions _____

Amount of requested funding _____

Please attach a letter describing your needs and reasons for applying for grant assistance. Make sure to highlight any other efforts made to raise funds, including outside funding, parent organizations or individual assistance. Mail, e-mail, or fax this form and any accompanying documents relating to the grant application.