

## December 2025

## Dear Georgetown ISD Employee:

With great excitement, Georgetown ISD Education Foundation has released its 2025-2026 application for the Collaborative Teacher Innovation Grant. We look forward to reading your ideas for a creative and innovative educational project that will impact student learning. The following are guidelines to keep in mind when submitting your application:

- The deadline for submission of proposals is **5 pm on Friday**, **February 27**, **2026**. <u>NO LATE PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED</u>.
- Visit the <u>GISD Website</u> and follow the links to the Teacher Innovation Grant Application and Signature Page.
- Grant coaching and feedback will be available. More information to follow.
- The maximum level of grant funding is up to \$5000 per grant application.
- Technology may only be purchased through district-approved vendors. GISD Technology Assets Clerk, Dierdre Madole, will have technology price information to assist in your budget process.
- When deciding on purchases and creating the budget for your proposal, please refer to: <u>Awarded Vender List</u> to determine if a specific vendor is approved for GISD purchases. In the event your vendor is not listed, please contact Angie Marsh at marsha1@georgetownisd.org.

Below are tips to keep in mind when writing your application:

- 1. The proposals will be judged by a Grant Review Team. This Committee is formed of individuals outside the employment of Georgetown ISD; therefore, please remember to **avoid educational jargon or abbreviations** when writing your application.
- 2. If your request includes technology, don't assume the reviewer will know what this technology is and what it can do. Provide a thorough description of the technology, what it can do, and if it is being used elsewhere in the district, explain its success.
- 3. Projects should demonstrate a **positive impact on student learning**.
- 4. Proposals that incorporate **matching funds** or **school and community resources** will be looked on favorably. Other contributions are a sign of commitment to the project, and they multiply the effectiveness of the grant.
- 5. **Projects involving the community** provide an excellent opportunity for educators and parents to work collaboratively on activities that support the instructional program and increase family participation in the education of their children.

- 6. Funds may be used to purchase equipment or provide necessary transportation, but **not when these are an end to themselves**. Such expenditures should be just one component of a well-planned project, integrated with other curriculum materials and activities.
- 7. Georgetown ISD Education Foundation will consider requests for **staff development activities** (attending workshops, trainings, conferences, bringing in a consultant), but only when <u>these</u> activities represent one component of a well-planned project, integrated with other activities that <u>directly impact students</u>. Georgetown ISD Education Foundation will not fund travel-related costs such as lodging, per diem, airfare, or mileage reimbursement.

Your proposal will be rated by reviewers on the following criteria: a) the project is innovative, b) the Grant application is based on the district Mission/Vision statement, and c) the project will impact student learning.

To assist you in submitting a winning application, Georgetown ISD Education Foundation has provided a **FAQ** (Frequently Asked Questions) sheet that may be downloaded from the Professional Learning website.

Selections are announced inOctober. <u>Grant recipients are required to submit a mid-year progress report and final evaluation.</u> In addition, grant recipients might be asked throughout the coming year to attend Georgetown ISD Education Foundation-sponsored fundraising events in order to promote community awareness of this program. Recipients will never be required to attend, but if their schedule allows, participation would be greatly appreciated.

We look forward to helping you foster the spirit of excellence in Georgetown ISD. If you have any questions, please contact Joycelyn Lawson (lawsonjk1829@gmail.com).