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*President and CEO, IPSF*

October 1, 2019

Dear IUSD Principals, Teachers, and Staff,

On behalf of Irvine Public Schools Foundation's Board of Trustees and staff, I am excited to announce the 2020 **Innovative Grants Program**. Since 1996, IPSF has awarded over \$1.5 million to support educators to implement innovative ideas in their classrooms and schools, and support their efforts to provide the best educational opportunities for IUSD students.

The funding parameters of the 2020 Innovative Grants Program are provided below. Applicants may apply for funding from three different categories. Individual schools may apply for all three grant opportunities in one school year.

- **Mega Grants (Limit one award per school)**
  - Funding limits per school: Up to **\$20,000**
- **Teaching & Counseling Grants**
  - Funding limits per school: Up to **\$5,000** each

**Funding priorities include but are not limited to the following:**

- Arts
- Mental Health & Counseling
- Music
- Science & Engineering
- Technology
- Other educational areas

We are proud to provide these resources to enhance innovation in IUSD schools and look forward to receiving your applications. Attached you will find more details regarding the application process. For questions, please contact Connie Cheung, Program Manager, at [ccheung@ipsf.net](mailto:ccheung@ipsf.net) or 949.812.7211.

Sincerely,



Neda Eaton  
President & CEO

# Innovative Grants Program



Irvine Public Schools Foundation (IPSF) is pleased to offer teachers and staff in the Irvine Unified School District the opportunity to apply for funds through the Innovative Grants Program including Teaching, Counseling, and Mega grants. The purpose of the program is to support innovation in schools by awarding funds to enhance learning and improve the educational experience of students.



The Innovative Grants Program is made possible by parent donations to IPSF through the *Parents Appreciating Teachers and Staff (PATS)* program, and the generous support of our partners: Assistance League of Irvine, Exchange Club of Irvine, and Google Fiber.



## General Information

1. Projects must exemplify an innovative teaching approach and/or initiative
2. **Teaching and Counseling Grants:** Funding limits per school are up to **\$5,000** for each grant category. Please note that this is the maximum amount any one school can receive; it is **NOT** a guarantee that a school will receive full funding.
3. **Mega Grants:** Funding limits per school are up to **\$20,000**. While you are welcome to submit multiple applications, a school may only receive one Mega grant award per school year.
4. Funding priorities include but are not limited to the following: Arts, Mental Health & Counseling, Music, Science & Engineering, Technology, and other educational areas.
5. Projects may be funded for a maximum of three years and applicants must apply each year.
6. Grant awards are intended to fund a proposed project, not a specific teacher. Any materials or services purchased with award funds remain the property of the school and not the recipient.
7. A school can submit as many grant requests as they desire, but per school funding limits apply.
8. A school can apply for all three categories of grants in the same year.
9. If a staff and/or teacher at your school received an IPSF grant last year, a completed mid-year report must be submitted to IPSF by **Friday, November 15, 2019** to be considered for funding. The report may be accessed at [www.ipsf.net/innovativegrants](http://www.ipsf.net/innovativegrants). Detailed and comprehensive reports are required. **Failure to submit a mid-year report by the deadline will disqualify the entire school for any consideration of funding during the 2019-2020 school year.**
10. Please complete **ALL** sections of the application. You may submit additional materials to clarify your project for the review committee.
11. The application must be completed **WITHOUT** mentioning names of teachers or staff members and/or the name of your school to help ensure an unbiased evaluation process.
12. Please pay careful attention to the application guidelines and criteria used by the review committee to evaluate proposals and be sure these issues are addressed in your application. Review and criteria guidelines can be found at [www.ipsf.net/grantcriteria](http://www.ipsf.net/grantcriteria).
13. Recipients will be notified by mid-February 2020. A reception honoring award recipients will be held on **Monday, February 24, 2020** from **4:30-5:30 p.m.** at TAPS Fish House & Brewery. Funding will be available via school gift accounts shortly after the reception.

**All applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2, 2019**

Applications may be submitted via district mail, U.S. mail, or hand-delivered to:

**Irvine Public Schools Foundation  
Attn: Innovative Grants Program  
1 Post, Suite 250 | Irvine, CA 92618**

Or via email\* to:  
**ccheung@ipsf.net**

*\*Please attach your application as a PDF. Cover page must be signed by your principal and attached as a separate PDF.*



## 2020 Innovative Grants Program Application

Please use this sheet as a cover page for grant applications, and please type or print neatly.

I am applying for (check one):

**Teaching**

**Counseling**

**Mega**

I have previously applied for funding through IPSF:

**Yes**

**No**

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Project Title

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Full Amount Requested

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Partial Funding Requested (If Applicable)

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Applicant Name(s) and Title(s)

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Primary Contact Name, Email, and Phone Number

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Principal Name

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School

---

Principal Signature (**Required**)

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Date

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## Project Proposal

### Project Description

1. Please provide the following:
  - Project title
  - One-paragraph summary of the project
2. Provide a detailed description including all of the following information:
  - Need for the project, including how this project will benefit students and improve current instruction
  - What in educational research supports the efficacy of this idea or program (i.e. provide information from publications, links to online resources, and/or other evidence that the project is likely to be effective in improving learning outcomes)
  - Goals and objectives of the project
  - How this project is innovative or aids in the implementation of creative approaches to learning and teaching
  - How this project might be developed beyond your school or classroom
3. Specify the anticipated number of students and the grade levels that will benefit annually from the project.
4. How do you anticipate assessing the program's effectiveness, including quantitative and/or qualitative indicators to assess the impact of the project on students and on teaching in your classroom and school.
5. A detailed timeline of your project from planning, execution, and assessment. This should also include your plan to maintain your project after its first year, and discuss whether or not your project is sustainable.

### Funding Request

1. Please provide an itemized, prioritized budget for your project which includes the amount to fully fund your program and what partial funding would be acceptable (include all expenses such as product purchase costs, labor/installment costs, shipping/handling, etc.).
2. Indicate any additional sources of support that you anticipate using for the project such as teacher's time, PTA funds, DonorsChoose.org, private donations, etc.
3. If requesting technology equipment, please obtain approval and price quotes from Scott Bennett, IUSD Information Technology Department, at [ScottBennett@iusd.org](mailto:ScottBennett@iusd.org).



# IPSF Innovative Grants Program

## Review Process

The IPSF Award Review Committee, composed of volunteer community and corporate leaders, determines all awards. Members are selected annually to ensure objectivity and diversity in the judging process. Committee members use the criteria and rubric below to individually review and score each proposal.

In addition to using the criteria below, reviewers will be looking for unique programs that reflect an extraordinary commitment on the part of the teacher, and/or appear to be highly stimulating to student interest.

## Criteria

1. The proposal is clear and thorough; application guidelines have been followed in sufficient detail.
2. The proposed project is innovative. It provides a creative approach to instruction and offers a unique program to students.
3. The proposal clearly demonstrates how the project will meet a student need, and be of benefit to their growth and learning.
4. Project demonstrates clear goals and objectives, and indicates how appropriate outcomes will be assessed.
5. The proposal cites strong theoretical reasoning from education research that supports the request.
6. The proposed project represents a good fiscal investment. The project reaches a wide group of students, benefiting not only those directly involved but others as well (i.e. will benefit students in more than one academic area and/or additional students in the future). The project also demonstrates the potential to be replicated and/or expanded to other grade levels or schools.
7. The project has a clear plan, which includes how it will be maintained after implementation and whether or not it is sustainable.

## Rubric

A scale of 1 to 6, 6 being the highest, is used by the IPSF Award Review Committee to rate each criterion. Funding will be awarded based on the total number of points and the recommendation a proposal receives from committee members.

Each criterion will be rated as follows:

- 0 = Not addressed
- 1-2 = Needs improvement
- 3 = Satisfactory
- 4-5 = Very Good
- 6 = Outstanding