



MATHEMATICS EDUCATION TRUST

Designing Innovative Lessons and Activities for Mathematics Teaching (Pre-K-8)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this grant is to encourage teams of mathematics educators to engage in the process of writing and editing materials for mathematics teachers.

SUPPORTED BY: Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation and NCTM

GRADES: PreK-5, 6-8

GRANT AMOUNT: \$5,000 each will be awarded, with potential for a one-year extension up to two times (for a maximum of \$15,000 for the lifetime of any grant)

DEADLINE: November 1

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- Team of mathematics educator representing the following:
 - Two (2) or more K-8 schools
 - Involving two (2) or more K-8 classroom teachers
 - A mathematics educator from a community college, college, or university
- This grant encourages the inclusion of coaches and preservice teachers as a part of the design process.
- Each team may also include high school mathematics teachers.
- No person(s) may receive more than one award administered by the Mathematics Education Trust in the same academic year.
- On review by the MET Board, successful grants may be renewed annually for a maximum of three years.

INDIVIDUAL AWARD OR ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD: Organizational

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT:

- The grant applicant is encouraged but not required to be an Essential or Premium member of NCTM.

GENERAL PROPOSAL INFORMATION:

- By design, this grant emboldens a team of passionate mathematics educators to develop and share fun, creative, and original lessons and activities. The grant supports the process of mathematics educators involved in collaboration.
- The Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation sponsors this grant to support synergy of ideas. Mary Dolciani was a prolific and innovative author of mathematics teaching materials. This grant encourages the time-honored tradition of writing and supports the research showing that collaboration with educators on new ideas can increase the breadth and depth of the mathematics content knowledge of mathematics teaching and learning.

AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

- The team will develop and organize a series of activities that can be used on a regular basis (weekly or monthly) to guide students to explore, create, and connect powerful mathematics thinking to their world experiences.
- Teachers will pilot materials with students, and revise the information as the project progresses.
- Activities/projects should provide rich, challenging, relevant, nonroutine, and above- grade-level learning experiences.
- Some shorter time-line activities should be introduced to students on a regular weekly or biweekly basis with extended projects 3 to 5 times a year.
- The rich tasks should be designed in collaboration with the entire team of classroom teachers, coaches and the mathematics education faculty.
- Designing projects in college teacher-prep courses is encouraged as the challenge of writing activities/projects will benefit the preservice teachers just as the engagement of activities/projects will benefit the elementary school students.
- For upper elementary students, career opportunities and preparation for the world of work should also be part of the discussion during the year, perhaps including speakers who actively engage students in some aspect of the work they do as well as explain how mathematics is used.
- The activities/projects can run during the summer, during the school year, on weekends, and/or after school for a sufficient period of time to deeply and actively engage students in learning exciting new and interesting mathematical concepts or applications. Projects may include setting up a mathematics challenge lab that students and their parents can visit regularly or a summer mathematics camp for students with parental participation.
- The Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation-MET grant should be used to increase the number of students participating in mathematics projects.
- On review by the MET Board, successful grants may be renewed annually for a maximum of three years.
- The applicant must indicate a financial agent, nonprofit organization, or person to administer the grant. If the grant is awarded to an individual teacher, that person is responsible for its accounting.
- Funds may be used for the following:
 - Expenses for institutes or workshops where teams meet and develop materials. Example: mileage, materials, etc.
 - Educators' stipends for participation in workshop and institutes designed by the grant recipient(s) and not occurring during the regular school day.
 - Materials for teachers to use in their classrooms directly related to lessons created by the grant. Materials are expected to be less than 10 percent of the proposed budget.
 - Registration fees for attendance at local, state, and national conferences; academies; and other professional development programs aligned with the goals of the grant.
- Funds may not be used for the following:
 - Substitute services of any type.
 - Travel and lodging at state and national conferences.
 - Food for workshops.
 - Indirect costs of the financial agent.

AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

I. Proposal (Three pages maximum)

A. Plan

- Include a brief description of the need for this project.
- Include a list of grant activities and meetings along with expected goals for those meetings.
- Describe timelines of specific plans for writing, piloting, and revising activities.
- Describe plans for evaluating the success of the program.

B. Outcome

- Describe the expected lessons or activities and the anticipated improvements in mathematics teaching and learning.
- Explain how you plan to assess improvement in students' learning.

II. Budget (One page maximum; table format)

- No indirect costs.
- Include an itemized budget, presented in line-item table format.
- If the total budget for a proposed project is greater than the grant maximum, indicate clearly what the grant funds will cover and what additional funding sources might be available to complete the total budget.
- Be specific and indicate how you would allocate \$5,000 from this award to be used for expenses related to achieving the goals of the proposal.
- Include any in-kind or additional support for funding.

III. Background and Experience

- One-page maximum, outline format preferred.
- One for each of the primary grant leaders.
- Formal education: institution, type of degree, major, minor, and date each degree was granted.
- List anticipated participants, schools involved, teaching assignments and levels, and other pertinent information.

IV. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (from two elementary school principals and one from higher-education)

- One-page maximum.
- Signed letter on school stationery, confirming support for the project, participants, and leaders.

V. Renewal Notification and Progress Report Requirements

- Submit a letter notifying NCTM that the team plans to request follow up funding by December 1st.
- Submit a two-page double spaced report that describes the progress achieved, successes, and any problems encountered and how they were resolved by December 1st.
- Submit an itemized proposed budget for the follow up funding.

FINAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS:

- Submit a two-page double spaced report including an itemized report of expenses.
- Submit an electronic copy in Word or editable format of lessons and activities to be shared on the NCTM website. Note: Materials shall meet all copyright requirements. As a condition of acceptance, applicant will transfer copyright of submitted work to NCTM. NCTM will require a release and/or disclaimer form for any materials selected for publishing on the web.