Career & Technical Education (CTE) Innovative Equipment Grants

**Proposal deadline: Friday June 14, 2024**

**All proposals must be electronically submitted, as a single PDF document and excel document of budget, via attachment to Jamie.boettcher@state.sd.us**

**Scope: Grant awards will range from $50,000 to $250,000**

**Award notification: June 21, 2024**

**Project Start Date: Projects may begin June 21, 2024**

**Project End Date: Funds must be expended prior to Sept 13, 2024**

**Project Completion: Projects must be completed including final report and claim by Oct 30, 2024.**

**Entire grant must be claimed on a single reimbursement request**

*. This grant is being funded with federal dollars available to the Department of Education through the American Rescue Plan.*

**I**

# **Purpose and Priorities**

The purpose of the CTE Innovative Equipment Grants is to identify, support, innovate and modernize CTE programs across South Dakota. The grants provide approved CTE programs with equipment critical to help students be prepared for high wage and high skill careers.

Proposals will be scored based on alignment with the following priorities:

1. **Student participation:** Demonstrates a capacity for a large number of students or a sizable percentage of the participating districts’ students to benefit from the project. Details how the grant project will support student achievement and develop industry-related skills.
2. **South Dakota workforce:** Addressesworkforceneedsthroughprograms designed to generate student interest, knowledge and skills in high-need workforce areas (either throughout the state or regionally).
3. **Alignment with business and industry standards:** Selected equipment or professional development opportunities reflect current industry standards.
4. **Innovation:** How the grant proposal fosters innovation in the CTE program.

**Eligibility**

Applications may be submitted by CTE consortia or school districts with approved Career & Technical Education programs (or those planning to add approved CTE programs in the 2024-25 school year).

One application per district. Districts are encouraged to submit a proposal that comprehensively supports the needs all approved CTE programs within the district in one application.

**Contact**

Direct questions to Jamie Boettcher [(jamie.boettcher@state.sd.us](mailto:jamie.boettcher@state.sd.us) or 605-220-3441)

**Use of Funds**

These funds will support the purchase of industry-grade equipment. Costs must be necessary and reasonable to complete the project; documentation must be available to support each expenditure.

**Specifically, the grant funds may support the purchase of (but not be limited to) the following:**

* **Equipment and materials related to the content of project activities.**
* **Training and travel costs for personnel directly related to the equipment.**
* **Expenses associated with installation, shipping, and set-up of the equipment. (plumbing and electrical costs are eligible but must be completed by the project end date.)**

**Grant funds cannot be used for:**

* **Salaries and benefits**
* **Capital investments**
* **Consumables**
* **Expenditures made prior to June 21, 2024 or are not approved in original grant application.**
* **Purchases that become the property of any individual or organization other than the eligible recipient**
* **Purchases or services beyond the project outcomes or activities**
* **Bundled Purchases**
* **Single pieces of equipment valued at less than $1000**

**A more detailed list of allowable and non-allowable expenditures is located at**

<https://doe.sd.gov/cte/documents/SupportCTE-0521.pdf>

**Considerations**

Questions to consider when vetting potential grant projects include:

* In what ways will the project add opportunity for more students to access high quality CTE programs with strong programs of study?
* How will the project modernize CTE programs and assist students in mastering industry standards?
* How will the project expose students to high-need workforce areas in South Dakota?
* How does the project foster innovation?
* How does this project connect to your CLNA action plan, industry partners, and workforce needs within your community.

**Application Deadline and Award Process**

**Proposals must be electronically submitted as a single PDF document and excel document of budget, via attachment, to Jamie.boettcher@state.sd.us by June 14, 2024.**

**Award notifications will be announced by June 21,2024. Projects may begin June 21, 2024, and funds must be obligated prior to Sept 13, 2024. Projects must be completed by Oct. 30, 2024.**

CTE Innovative Equipment Grants will be awarded through a competitive process. All proposals will be read and judged by a review committee. The review committee will determine award winners based on the grant priorities and criteria using a scoring rubric.

Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified. Award decisions made by the review committee are final.

CTE Innovative Equipment Grants for

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

# Proposal Submissions

A single .pdf document ***and*** excel document of budget must be emailed to [Jamie.boettcher@state.sd.us](mailto:Jamie.boettcher@state.sd.us) by 5pm on June 14, 2024.

**Complete proposals will include the following elements:**

* Cover Page using template provided
* Description of proposed project: Overview/Rationale, Plan, Outcomes
* Letters of Support
* Budget using provided template. MUST be submitted as a separate file in excel format

**Details:**

1. **Cover Page on provided template**
2. **Project description:**
   * **Overview:** Provide background information and/or rationale for the project. Why is the grant funding needed? Include information to support the project’s merit and address the grant priorities. How does the project improve the quality of and access to CTE programs? What equipment do you currently have and how will this improve the size, scope, and quality of your CTE programs?
   * **Proposed Plan:** List the project’s goals. Who will be involved in the project? How many students will

benefit from the project? What is the timeline for the project? How will high-need workforce areas be supported? How will teachers be supported/ trained to ensure this equipment is used effectively?

* + **Outcomes:** Indicate how student achievement will be impacted as a result of the project. What are the measurable outcomes? How does this support the goals of your CLNA Action plan?

1. **Budget:**
   * Must use the included template and submit as a separate excel file.
   * Details of exact equipment to be purchased needs to be identified, include manufacturer, make/model, price, and URL to website.
2. **Letters of Support: Must include letters from:**
   * At least one district administrator This letter should express how the project ties into the district's current and future improvement goals. This letter should clarify that the installation costs such as setup, plumbing, electrical, etc. have been included in the grant application or the district assumes responsibility for these costs to ensure all equipment is operational and this work will be completed by the end of the short grant period.
   * Business, Industry, and Post Secondary partners. These letters should address support for the program(s), endorsement that the equipment requested is essential, and ways their business and the CTE will continue a partnership in the future.

**INNOVATIVE EQUIPMENT GRANT COVER PAGE**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| District: |  | School: |  |
| Main Contact Name: |  | Phone: |  |
| Email: |  | | |
| Project Title: |  | Total Amount Requested: |  |
| Brief Project Summary: | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Planned Timeline for completing purchases/ installation of equipment: (refer to grant deadlines, this is a very limited time grant) | | | |
| Clusters Served (by proposal): | * Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources * Architecture & Construction * Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications * Business Management & Administration * Education & Training * Finance * Government & Public Administration * Health Science * Hospitality & Tourism * Human Services * Information Technology * Law, Public Safety & Security * Manufacturing * Marketing * Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics * Transportation, Distribution & Logistics | Courses that will benefit:  ex: Advanced Plant Science 18057 |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Teachers that will benefit: |  |

**General Assurances**

This applicant certifies to the South Dakota Department of Education that:

1. All programs, services and activities covered by this application will be conducted in accordance with the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act and the American Rescue Plan.  *This grant is being funded with federal dollars available to the Department of Education through the American Rescue Plan.*
2. Federal funds made available will be used to supplement and, to the extent practical, to increase the amount of local funds that would, in the absence of such federal funds, be made available, and in no case to supplant such local funds; supporting documents will be maintained for audit that specifically identify the purpose for which federal funds have been expended.
3. By accepting federal funds, the recipient hereby agrees to establish and maintain fiscal control and accounting procedures, as set forth in current federal regulations, to ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, federal funds for the intended purpose.
4. By accepting federal and/or state funds, the recipient hereby agrees to repay any funds that have been finally determined through the federal or state audit resolution process to have been misspent, misapplied or otherwise not properly accounted for.
5. Equipment purchased, and curriculum developed with federal funds remains the property of the local school district.
6. The local application has been developed taking into consideration other educational and training resources available in the area including private and trade schools.
7. The applicant maintains documentation to verify the eligibility of students enrolled in programs supported by federal funds for education of students who are members of special populations.
8. The local applicant agrees to comply with all state and federal rules and regulations regarding nondiscrimination based on disability, race, color, national origin and sex.
9. The state may terminate this grant within 30 days after approval for violation of this agreement or applicable regulations.
10. Funds expended under this Act will not be used to acquire equipment (including computer software) in any instance in which such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interest of the purchasing entity or its employee or any affiliate of such an organization.
11. State and local funds will be used in the schools that are receiving federal funds under the Act to provide services that, taken, are at least comparable to services being provided in schools that are not receiving such federal funds.
12. Individuals who are members of special populations will be provided with equal access to recruitment, enrollment and placement activities to the full range of career and technical education programs available to individuals who are not members of special populations, including occupationally specific courses of study, cooperative education, apprenticeship programs and, to the extent practicable, comprehensive career guidance and counseling services, and shall not be discriminated against on the basis of their status as members of special populations.
13. Career and technical education planning for individuals with disabilities will be coordinated between appropriate representatives of career and technical education, special education and state vocational rehabilitation agencies.
14. The provision of career and technical education will be monitored to ensure that disadvantaged students and English Learner students proficiency have access to such education in the most integrated setting possible.
15. Career and technical education programs/support activities funded under Title I, Part C, in a consortium arrangement shall be available to ALL students of the participating LEAs in the consortium.
16. No funds made available under this Act shall be used to require any secondary student to choose or pursue a specific career path or major.
17. No funds made available under this Act shall be used to mandate that an individual participate in a career and technical education program, including a career and technical program that requires the attainment of a federally funded skill level, standard or certificate of mastery.
18. No funds provided under this Act shall be used to directly providing incentives or inducements to an employer to relocate a business enterprise from one state to another state if such relocation will result in a reduction in the number of jobs available in the state where the business enterprise is located before such incentives or inducements are offered.
19. No funds received under this grant may be used to provide career and technical education programs to students prior to the fifth grade.
20. The portion of any student financial assistance received under this Act that is made available for attendance costs described in subsection (section 325(b)) shall not be considered as income or resources in determining eligibility for assistance under any other program funded in whole or in part with Federal funds. (Sec 325(a))
21. Funds made available under this Act may be used to pay for the costs of career and technical education services required in an individualized education plan developed pursuant to section 614(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and services necessary to the requirements of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 with respect to ensuring equal access to career and technical education. (Sec. 325(c))
22. All programs, services and activities covered by this application will be conducted in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the U. S. Office for Civil Rights’ “Vocational Education Programs Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination and Denial of Services on the Basis of Race, Color, National Origin, Sex and Handicap.”
23. Statistical data (Student Enrollment, Concentrator Data, Standards and Measures) and financial and descriptive reports required by Office of Career & Technical Education (DCTE) will be submitted on time.
24. When planning expenditure of Perkins funds, eligible recipients must describe how the requests are related to Perkins standards and measures outcomes, program improvement process (PIP) goals, program standards/competencies, and measurable student outcomes.
25. The LEA will make reports to the state agency or the Secretary as may be needed for the state agency or board and the Secretary to perform their duties under the program, and each LEA will maintain records and provide access to those records as the state board or agency or Secretary deems necessary to carry out their responsibilities. Reporting requirements may include:
    1. How the LEA is developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies and plans in line with the CDC guidance related to addressing COVID-19 in schools;
    2. How funds will support a return to and maximize in-person instruction time, and advance equity and inclusivity in participation in in-person instruction;
    3. Data on each school’s mode of instruction (remote, hybrid, in-person) and conditions;
    4. Uses of funds to meet students’ social, emotional, and academic needs, including through summer enrichment programming and other evidence-based interventions, and how they advance equity for underserved students;
    5. Uses of funds to sustain and support access to early childhood education programs, if applicable;
    6. Impacts and outcomes (disaggregated by student subgroup) through use of ARP ESSER funding (e.g., quantitative and qualitative results of ARP ESSER funding, including on personnel, student learning, and budgeting at the school and LEA level);
    7. Student data (disaggregated by student subgroup) related to how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected instruction and learning;
    8. Requirements under the Federal Financial Accountability Transparency Act (FFATA)
26. The LEA will provide opportunities for the participation in, planning for, and operation of each program by teachers, parents, and other interested agencies, organizations, and individuals.
27. The LEA will make applications, evaluations, plans, or reports related to each program available to the public.
28. The LEA will ensure that facilities constructed under any program will be consistent with overall district construction plans and standards and with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in order to ensure that the facilities are accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.
29. The LEA has adopted effective procedures for acquiring and disseminating information and research regarding the program and for adopting, where appropriate, promising educational practices to teachers and administrators participating in the program; and none of the funds expended under any applicable program will be used to acquire equipment if such acquisition results in a direct financial benefit to any organization representing the interests of the purchasing entity or its employees.
30. The LEA will comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; merit systems; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; flood hazards; historic preservation: protection of human subjects; animal welfare; lead-based paint; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.
31. With respect to the certification regarding lobbying in Department Form 80-0013, no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program; the LEA will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying,” when required (34 C.F.R. Part 82, Appendix B).
32. The LEA will comply with the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) requirements in Subpart D— Post Federal Award Requirements (2 CFR §§200.300-345) and Subpart E—Cost Principles (2 CFR §§200.400-475) to ensure that ARP ESSER funds are used for purposes that are reasonable, necessary, and allocable under the ARP.
33. The LEA will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances; the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.
34. The Sub-Recipient agrees to maintain or supervise the maintenance of records necessary for the proper and efficient operation of the program, including records and documents regarding applications, determination of eligibility (when applicable), the provision of services, administrative costs, and statistical, fiscal, and other information records necessary for reporting and accountability required by the State. The Sub-Recipient shall retain such records for a period of three years after the date of the submission of the final expenditure report.

**GEPA Statement**

What steps are in place to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, federally assisted programs for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs [GEPA 427]. Department of Education’s General Education Provisions Act (GEPA).

Provide a statement about how the district is ensuring the federally identified six barriers (gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age) and any other barriers are addressed. Include the six barriers in your statement and address students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs.

**As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:**

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§ 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§ 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. § 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §§874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§ 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead- based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will comply with certification requirements under 34 CFR Part 82, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," as required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 82, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over $100,000, as defined at 34 CFR Part 82, Sections 82.105 and 82.110,
18. Will comply with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F, for grantees, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.605 and 85.610.
19. Will comply with Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.105 and 85.110.
20. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, §Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.§
21. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

# Grant Assurances

**ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:** The below named applicant assures the South Dakota Department of Education that this project will be administered in compliance with the assurances contained in this application, with state laws and regulations applicable to the use of these funds, that the information contained in this application is accurate and complete, and that the board of the above named applicant has authorized me as its representative to file this application.

**We have reviewed the grant deadlines and are prepared to order all equipment immediately upon award of the grant and will submit reimbursement claim as soon as possible.**

Grant Project Manager:

*Name Title*

*Email Phone Number*

Superintendent

*Printed Name Title*

*Signature Date*

Business Manager

*Printed Name Title*

*Signature Date*