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Introduction

The Amino Labs Grant Guide is specifically designed for educators, but is available to anyone interested in the grant application process. In this guide, you will find an introduction to grants, some key tips for crafting successful applications, a list of grants available to educators, and recommendations on how to implement Amino Labs products in the classroom.

Grants are funds awarded by government agencies, foundations, corporations, or nonprofit entities. Grants typically fund interest projects, programs, or initiatives that align with the goals and values of the awarding organization. These funds may be awarded to individuals, charities/non-profits, or educational institutions. Most grants have specific eligibility criteria and a competitive application process.



Tips for Successful Applications

When applying for grants as an educator, there are some key considerations to keep in mind to increase your chance of success:

1 Spend Time Researching

Researching grants can be a tedious process, but identifying funding opportunities that align with your specific needs and goals is essential to improving success. Research should be focused on identifying grants that are specific to your subject area, grade level, or particular educational goals. Be sure to explore both local and national funding sources, including government resources.

2 Carefully Understand Eligibility Criteria

Before you begin writing a proposal, it is essential that you carefully review the guidelines and eligibility criteria of each grant you plan to apply for. Ensure that your goals and interests align with the grant's focus and objectives, and pay attention to any specific documentation or materials you need to submit.

3 Craft a Strong Proposal

Drafting a grant proposal is often the most time-consuming step in the application process, but crafting a well-written and persuasive proposal is critical to success. Ensure your proposal highlights how your project aligns with the grant's priorities and addresses any identified needs or challenges. Your proposal should also outline your project's goals, methods, and expected outcomes while adhering to the grant application guidelines.

4 Budget Wisely

Many grant proposals require a detailed and realistic budget outline. Ensure that you clearly describe how funds will be allocated and provide a brief justification explaining why any expenses are necessary for the project. Remember, every grant application may have specific budget requirements or templates to follow. Always review the grant guidelines and use any provided budget forms or templates if available.

5 Collaborate

Consider collaborating with colleagues, administrators, or local organizations to strengthen your grant application. Collaborative projects can have broader impact compared to individual applications. Collaborators can also provide additional resources that may not be available to an individual applicant. It is important to remember the grant guidelines when considering collaborations, as some grants may only be available to individuals.

6 Demonstrate Sustainability

Grant funders often want to see that the impact of their investment will continue beyond the grant period. Outline how you plan to sustain the project or program beyond the initial funding period, whether through institutional support, partnerships, or other resources.

Don't forget, grant applications can be highly competitive, so it's important to invest time and effort into creating a strong and compelling proposal.



Education Grants



Whether you want to improve classroom learning, implement innovative education technology, or develop professionally, there are resources available to support your goals. Listed below are just some of the grants available to provide funding to educators, schools, or non-profit organizations.

Please note, any grant listed may be subject to change without notice.

National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation provides a wide variety of funding opportunities, including grants for K-12 educators, undergraduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students. NSF also offers cooperative agreements and fellowships to support science education and research.

Eligibility and deadlines differ depending on grant/funding type.

Be sure to check out the NSF website during research process:
<https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities>



Voya Unsung Heroes

The Voya Unsung Heroes grant is open to K-12 educators from the United States. Educators implementing innovative teaching methods and techniques are eligible to apply. Many successful applicants have outlined projects that incorporate new technologies that may be funded through the grant.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- K-12 educators
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations (non-profits) are ineligible

Deadline:

The 2023 application deadline was May 12th. Applications are reviewed during the summer, and successful applicants will be notified by the fall. The exact deadline for 2024 applications is not yet announced.

Website: <https://www.voya.com/page/voya-unsung-heroesr>

Contacts: unsungheroes@scholarshipamerica.org, 1-507-931-1682





McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation Academic Enrichment Grant

The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation supports schools or non-profit organizations that work with students from low-income households. The Academic Enrichment Grant is designed to fund educators who have unique ideas for projects that supplement classroom curriculums for low-income households. Educators apply on behalf of their school and act as a representative.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- Individuals applying must be employed at a preK-12 school or a non-profit organization
 - E.g. community centres, museums, etc.
- Work with students from low-income households

Deadline:

Applications are accepted from January 15th to April 15th. Applications will no longer be accepted once 200 submissions have been received.

Website: <https://mccartheydressman.org/academic-enrichment-grants/>

Contact:

The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation may be contacted through [this form](#).



McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation- Teacher Development Grant

The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation also supports teacher development, providing funding for K-12 teachers employed in public or private schools. The foundation offers grants to teachers implementing unique, groundbreaking educational strategies that foster innovative classroom learning.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- Applicants must be K-12 teachers employed in a public or private school
- May be an individual applicant or a group of teachers

Deadline:

Applications are accepted from January 15th to April 15th. Applications will no longer be accepted once 200 submissions have been received.

Website: <https://mccartheydressman.org/teacher-development-grants/>

Contact:

The McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation may be contacted through [this form](#).





Pitsco Education Grant

The Pitsco Education Grant supports preK-college educators by providing funding in the form of a \$350 value Pitsco voucher, which may be applied across multiple transactions. Educators may apply for a voucher every year; however, only 1 voucher may be awarded during a 12-month period.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- PreK-College educators
- Includes educators in classrooms, out-of-school settings, and homeschools

Deadline:

Vouchers are awarded each month, and applications are accepted from the first day of each month to the last day of the month.

Ex. July 1st - July 31st

Website: <https://resources.pitsco.com/pitsco-grant-app>

Contacts: pitscopd@pitsco.com, 800-828-5787



Technology Education Foundation

The Technology Education Foundation supports organizations that provide important technology resources and technology education to residents of Dane County and the greater Madison area. The Foundation works to fund children, teens, and adults to help close a “technology gap.”

Eligibility:

- Only available in Dane County, Wisconsin
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations
- K-12 schools

Deadline:

The 2023 application deadline was May 28th. The exact deadline for 2024 applications is not yet announced.





Lockheed Martin Grant

Lockheed Martin offers charitable donations to non-profit organizations and public elementary/secondary schools by inviting them to apply for grants. Lockheed Martin seeks to support STEM education, service members and their families, and community resilience.

Eligibility:

- **Applications are by invitation only**
 - An inquiry form may be completed [here](#)
- USA, Canada, Israel, Mexico non-profit organizations
- Public elementary and secondary schools
- Home-based child care/educational services are ineligible

Deadline:

Applications have a rolling deadline, but are only available to those who have received an invitation code from Lockheed Martin.

Website: <https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/who-we-are/communities/applying-for-contributions.html>

Lockheed Martin may be contacted through an inquiry form.



Toshiba America Foundation- Grade 6-12 Grants

The Toshiba America Foundation offers grants to 6-12th grade teachers who have an innovative idea for improving STEM learning in their classroom. The foundation is committed to providing funding to help teachers make learning STEM subjects fun.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- Grade 6-12 teachers only

Deadline: rolling

Website: <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

Contact: 212 596-0620





Walmart Community Grant

The Walmart Community grants are awarded to U.S. organizations, charities, K-12 schools, post-secondary institutions, and more. Grants range from \$250 to \$5,000, and are funded directly by local Walmart and Sam's Club facilities. Walmart Community Grants support a wide range of organizations, including those focused on education, diversity & inclusion, and community and economic development.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations
- K-12 public or nonprofit private schools
- Community/junior colleges, state/private colleges, or universities

Deadline:

Applications have a rolling deadline, and are reviewed quarterly.

Quarter 1: Feb 1 – April 15

Quarter 2: May 1 – July 15

Quarter 3: August 1 – October 15

Quarter 4: November 1 – December 31

Website: <https://walmart.org/how-we-give/local-community-grants>



Westinghouse Charitable Giving Program

The Westinghouse Charitable Giving Program provides funds to US-based organizations that align with the program's 3 interest areas:

1. Education with a focus on STEM
2. Environmental Sustainability
3. Community Safety and Vitality

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- K-12 schools
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations
- Organization/school must be in an area within 50 miles of a Westinghouse site
 - Search for Westinghouse locations [here](#)

Deadline: Applications have a rolling deadline, and must be submitted as a PDF to WECgiving@westinghouse.com.

Website: <https://www.westinghousenuclear.com/about/community-and-education/charitable-giving-program>

Contact: Cathy.mann@westinghouse.com,





AIAA Foundation Classroom Grant Program

The AIAA Foundation offers \$250 and \$500 grants to support STEAM education in the classroom, with a focus on Aerospace. Grants may be applied towards purchasing STEM demonstration kits, STEM supplies, and other important classroom materials.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- K-12 schools
- Applicant must create an account with AIAA

Deadline:

21 June 2023: Submission Period Opens

30 September 2023: Submission Period Closes

December 2023: Applicants Notified of Status

Website: <https://www.aiaa.org/get-involved/students-educators/aiaa-foundation-classroom-grant-program>

Contact: K-12STEM@aiaa.org.



Reiman Foundation

The Reiman Foundation strives to support education, health care, the arts, and initiatives for children by offering grants to nonprofit organizations. Grants do not have a fixed price, and applicants must request the amount of funding they require to achieve their goals.

Eligibility

- Organizations must have tax-exempt status
- Applicants are encouraged to create a wish list documenting their specific needs and the dollar amount associated with those needs

Deadline:

Applications have a rolling deadline.

Website: <http://www.reimanfoundation.org/>

Contacts: reimanfoundation@hexagoninc.com, 262-696-4455





Verizon Foundation Grants

The Verizon Foundation offers grants to promote digital inclusion, climate protection, and human prosperity. The Foundation invites a variety of non-profit organizations and schools to apply for funding.

Eligibility:

- Applications are by invitation only
 - Organizations may contact a local community relations manager to see if they are eligible
- Only available to the US
- Not-for-profit preK-12 schools
- Must be registered with the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

Deadline:

The Verizon Foundation will specify a deadline to organizations invited to apply.

Website: <https://www.verizon.com/about/responsibility/grant-requirements>

Verizon encourages interested organizations to contact their local community relations manager.



Perloff Family Foundation STEM4ME Grants

The Perloff Family Foundation provides grants to schools to support learning about renewable energy, ecology, robotics and sustainable food production. The foundation provides funds to schools to purchase equipment, supplies, and other classroom materials required to improve student learning in the specified interest areas.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the state of Maine
- K-12 public schools and academies

Deadline:

Applications have a rolling deadline.

Website: <https://www.perloffgrants.org/stem4me-grants>

Contact:

The Perloff Family Foundation may be contacted through [this form](#).





Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant

The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation provides funding to K-12 teachers and administrators in Ohio. The foundation's goals are to support projects that promote deep learning and excellent teaching. Successful projects should allow students to acquire new skills in a way that changes thinking or behaviors.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the state of Ohio
- PreK-12 public schools
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations that assist preK-12 public schools

Deadline:

The foundation reviews projects for funding 6 times a year. Application deadlines are December 15th, February 15th, April 15th, June 15th, August 15th, and October 15th.

Website: <https://www.mhjf.org/grantprograms>

Contact: k.kooyman@mhjf.org, (216) 589-5700



Webb Family Foundation

The Webb Family Foundation promotes education, health, and sustainability. The Foundation offers funds to middle- and high-school age students in the San Francisco Bay Area and Florida. Education grants are designed to support youth development, youth mentorship, career or workforce development, makerspaces, STEM/STEAM, financial literacy, and digital/blended learning.

Eligibility:

- The Foundation considers organizations based in the following order of priority: Bay Area, California, Florida, New York, entire United States.
- Middle- and high-school age students

Deadline:

The 2024 deadline is not yet available. Check back in early 2024 to apply for grants.

Website: <https://webbfamilyfoundation.org/grant-process/learn/>

Contact: team@webbfamilyfoundation.org





Hearst Foundations

The Hearst Foundations are committed to providing funding for non-profit organizations working in the fields of culture, education, health and social services. The Hearst Foundations prioritize students seeking higher education and educators focused on professional development, but K-12 educators are encouraged to apply. The Hearst Foundations prefer to fund science education programs with a focus on professional/career development.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- K-12 and higher education institutions
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations

Deadline:

Applications have a rolling deadline, and must be completed within 3 months of initiating.

Website: <https://www.hearstfdn.org/about>

Contacts:

New York office: 212-649-3750, hearst.ny@hearstfdn.org

San Francisco office: 415-908-4500, hearst.sf@hearstfdn.org



General Motors Grant Program

General Motors strives to support youth who may not have robust STEM learning opportunities available to them. General Motors seeks to build a diverse pipeline in science, technology, engineering and math by offering grants. In addition to STEM education, the General Motors Grant Program promotes community development and vehicle/road safety.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations

Deadline:

General Motors accepts applications from January through September each year.

Website: <https://www.gm.com/commitments/communities#apply-for-funding>

Contact: <https://www.gm.com/company/contact-us>





Alternative Fuel Foundation Grant

The Alternative Fuel Foundation offers funds to educational institutions to support programs that promote renewable energy, environmental sustainability, and earth stewardship. The Foundation funds non-profit public or private K-12 schools and universities that meet eligibility criteria.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the US
- Non-profit public or private K-12 schools
- Some universities
- Check eligibility criteria [here](#)

Deadline:

Applications have a rolling deadline that are reviewed quarterly.

Website: <https://www.alternativefuelfoundation.org/grants/>

Contacts: 617-902-0493, or fill out a contact form [here](#).



NEA Learning/Leadership Grants

The NEA Learning and Leadership grants are designed to provide resources for teachers to engage in meaningful professional development experiences. The grants are available to teachers who have little-to-no access to professional development opportunities due to limited district funding.

Eligibility:

- Only available in the U.S. to members of the National Education Association
- Public K-12 schools
- Public institutions of higher education

Deadline:

Grants are awarded 3 times a year, with the earliest deadline on September 15th, 2023. Other deadlines will be announced for February and April.

Website:

<https://www.neafoundation.org/educator-grants-and-fellowships/learning-leadership-grants/>

Contacts: 202-822-7840, 202-822-7779





Dr. Scholl Foundation

The Dr. Scholl Foundation provides grants to charitable organizations whose interests align with the foundation's. Interest areas include, but are not limited to:

1. Education
2. Social Service
3. Healthcare
4. Civic and Cultural
5. Environmental

Eligibility:

- Primarily available to US organizations*
- Public schools and municipalities are rarely considered
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations

*Non-US grants may be awarded where the foundation directors have knowledge of the organization.

Deadline:

Applications open each year on October 1st, and must be submitted by March 1st the following year.

Website: <https://www.drschollfoundation.com/>

Contact: 847-559-7430





Contests & Funding Sites

Shell Science Lab Challenge

The Shell Science Lab Challenge recognizes exemplary educators who implement innovative approaches to science education. The contest is open to science educators representing their K-12 school that is located in targeted areas near Shell USA Inc. assets.

Eligibility:

- Must be located in one of the following regions:
 - Carson, CA (LAUSDs in Carson, Mormon Island, Van Nuys, Colton, Long Beach)
 - Port Allen, LA (West Baton Rouge Parish)
 - Geismar, LA (Ascension Parish, East Baton Rouge Parish, City of Zachary SD, City of Central SD, City of Baker SD)
 - Norco, LA (St. Charles Parish, St. John Parish)
 - New Orleans, LA (Jefferson Parish, Orleans Parish, Terrebonne Parish, LaFourche Parish, Iberville Parish, St. Tammany Parish, St. Bernard Parish)
 - Monaca, PA (Cen. Valley, Aliquippa, W.Beaver, Beaver, Rochester, N. Brighton, Riverside, Beaver Falls, Blackhawk)
 - Deer Park, TX (Deer Park ISD, Pasadena ISD, LaPorte ISD)
 - Houston, TX (Region 4 Education Service Center)
 - Applicants must be an individual science educator
 - Schools may submit several educators as representatives

Deadline: March 11, 2024

Website: <https://www.nsta.org/shell-science-lab-regional-challenge>

Contacts: shellsciencelab@nsta.org, 703-312-9217



DonorsChoose.org

DonorsChoose is a non-profit funding site that allows US educators to request funding for classroom materials. Teachers submit a project to the site with a list of requested items to be purchased by donors.

Eligibility:

- Only available to the US
- Individuals employed at a public PreK-12 school

Deadline:

Teachers select a deadline to receive requested classroom materials.

Website: <https://www.donorschoose.org/>





Samsung Solve for Tomorrow

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow is an academic contest that awards a single winner for each US state. Teachers with experience in STEM education compete for a chance to bring new technology to their school. In addition to state winners, Samsung Solve for Tomorrow also awards prizes to National Winners and National Finalists.

Eligibility:

- Only available to the US
- Public and charter school teachers
- Only schools that are at least 50% publicly funded are eligible to compete
- Only available to teachers who instruct grades 6–12

Deadline:

Application window opens September 2023.

Website: <https://www.samsung.com/us/solvefortomorrow/about/>

Contact: SolveForTomorrow@sea.samsung.com



Integrating Amino Labs Products into a Classroom

STEM & STEAM Education

Looking to advance STEM/STEAM education in your classroom? Amino Labs offers a variety of experiment kits and educational resources to introduce students to biotechnology, art, genetic engineering, and more!



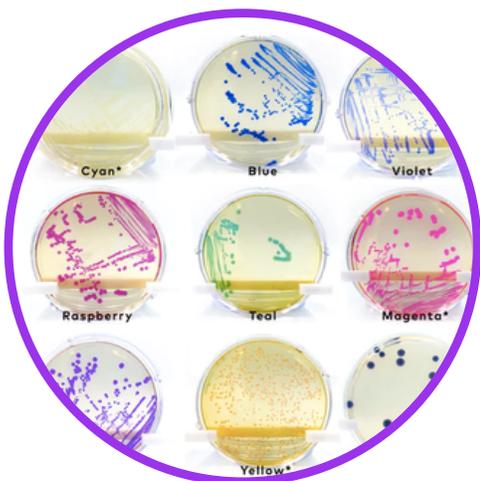
Canvas Kit

The **Canvas Kit** integrates biotechnology and genetic engineering with visual art. Students select, amplify, and culture colorful bacteria to create beautiful pieces of living art—or Bioart. The Canvas Kit is a great introduction to the principles of genetics, bacteria life cycles, and selective cultures, while engaging students in hands-on art.

With the **DNA extraction Kit**, the genomic DNA from cells of a strawberry, banana, or other soft fruit can be extracted. The experiment allows students to visualize DNA, deepening their understanding of its structure and function. The experiment is also a fantastic way to introduce the concepts of genetics and heritability using common food items.



DNA Extraction Kit



Engineer-it Kit

The **Engineer-it Kit** allows students to grow and engineer bacteria to produce a colorful bio-pigment. The kit instructs students on how to streak and culture cells, make cells chemically competent, and engineer bacteria using a pigment-producing DNA plasmid. The Engineer-it Kit is a great way to introduce biology topics such as genetic engineering, bacterial transformation, and recombinant DNA.

Integrating Amino Labs Products into a Classroom

Environmental Education & Sustainability

Amino Labs is committed to promoting environmental education and sustainability to help students develop a sense of responsibility and stewardship towards the natural world. Our experiments are designed to demonstrate the importance of sustainable practices and how biotechnology can help the environment.

The **Extract-it Kit** is a multi-disciplinary experiment that integrates science and art. With this kit, students will extract proteins from genetically engineered cells and examine their properties. The Extract-it Kit is an interactive experiment, allowing students to engage their senses as they explore enzymes and colorful pigments. This experiment is designed to introduce students to concepts of sustainable biomaterials and genetic engineering.



Extract-it Kit



Bioplastics Kit

Discover a greener way to craft and create with the **Bioplastics Kit**. This hands-on kit teaches an educational, renewable solution to reduce plastic waste and fight climate change. The Bioplastics kit teaches students about the material science behind bioplastics and how to make their own. As the field of bioplastics grows, we want to empower learners with all the information they need to understand the science behind these biomaterials in a responsible and fun way.

The **BioPrint-it Kit** demonstrates how biotechnology can be utilized to naturally dye textiles and create paint. Students produce paint and patterns on Petri dishes using colored engineered bacteria, and transfer their designs directly onto paper or a textile. The designs are stabilized and fixed with the medium provided to lock in the colorful creation.



BioPrint-it Kit

Integrating Amino Labs Products into a Classroom

Technology & Equipment

Create your own biotech laboratory with Amino Labs' technology and equipment. Our products are designed to provide individuals the tools they need to complete any Amino Labs experiment without a permanent lab space or costly professional equipment. Check out some of our best-selling technology and equipment below.



DNA Playground

The **DNA Playground** can be used at home or in schools as a personal and engaging alternative to traditionally large, expensive, and complex lab equipment. The DNA Playground is a new kind of lab equipment that is specifically designed for those just learning about biotechnology, molecular biology, and genetic engineering. The 3-in-1 nature of the DNA Playground reduces equipment costs, set-up time, and clean-up time. Moreover, these units take only seconds to turn off, unplug, and store away in a cupboard for next time, eliminating the need for a dedicated lab set up.

Inspire budding scientists with our tabletop **Classroom Incubator**. The incubator is perfect for classrooms, groups, and large-scale science fair projects. This equipment is capable of incubating the experiment plates of an entire class at once, and is a perfect complement to our Canvas kit and compatible with all of our biology experiment kits.



Classroom Incubator



Zero to Genetic Engineering Hero Classroom Starter Kit

The **Zero to Genetic Engineering Hero Classroom Starter Kit** includes everything a teacher needs to explore topics in biology such as DNA, evolution, genes, genomes, cell structure, macromolecules, organic elements, bonding, how cells operate, transcription, and more! This kit pack includes books, equipment, and materials for a teacher with no prior lab experience to set up a lab space, practice the exercises, view the book content, and teach biotech content to students..

Ready to Enhance Student Learning with Amino Labs?

Visit **amino.bio** to browse our products and teaching resources.

If you have any questions about grants, please do not hesitate to contact us at **grants@amino.bio**.

Want one-on-one help? Book a virtual **meeting with us**. We strive to support educators in their biotechnology learning journeys, and we love hearing from you!

Thank you for supporting Amino Labs!



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