



Tips for Writing a Successful Youth Empowerment and Action Grant

Are you ready to take the lead and make a difference in your school? We are so excited that you are interested in applying for a Youth Empowerment and Action Grant (YEA!) from the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation (CPSF). These grants give students like *you* the chance to bring your ideas to life and make a difference in your school or community. YEA! Grants are funded by people in our community who believe in the power of education and want to support students in the Corvallis School District.

Writing a grant may seem a bit scary at first, but don't worry—we've made it simple! This is the time for you to tell us why **your** project should be funded. Here are some helpful tips to make sure your application stands out:

Who can apply for a YEA! Grant?

Any student in grades K-12 in the Corvallis School District can apply for a YEA! Grant.

Key Things to Include in Your Application

1. **Your Info:** Choose one student to be the "primary point person" (the main contact for your project).
 - Provide the primary point person's name, grade, email, and school.
 - List other students involved if it's a group project.
2. **Staff Mentor:** Every project must have a staff mentor (teacher, coach, classroom assistant, administrator, etc.) to guide and support your project.
 - Staff Mentors also make sure that the project adheres to Foundation and School District requirements.
3. **Project Details:** This is the most important part of the grant application because this is where you make the case for why *your* project is important and should be funded. Here are some things to think about as you write the description of the project:
 - Give your project a catchy title that highlights the main idea.





- Think about what problem your project will solve or how it will improve or enrich your school.
- Is it for your class, club, or another school group? Explain who will benefit and how your project will make a difference.
- Write clearly and stay within the required character limits.

4. Create a Budget: YEA! Grants range from \$250 to \$2,500.

- You'll need to research how much everything will cost, like supplies, equipment, or fees.
- Sometimes it's hard to know exactly how much things will cost, but be as specific and accurate as possible.
- If you have other sources of funding, like the PTA or fundraising, include that too.

Other Things to Consider

Think about how your project might affect the school staff, building, or other resources—If you're planning an event or making changes (like painting or building), you'll need approval from school staff (see section below). Your project must also follow Corvallis School District rules for spending the grant money. Your staff mentor can help with this.

Before You Submit Your Application

- Be sure that your project has been approved by your school administrator.
- Ask a teacher or staff mentor to review your application before you submit it.
- Submit a 'Site Modification Request' if your project involves any changes to the school building or grounds. Remember, your staff mentor can help with this!

The deadline for YEA! Grant applications is December 1, 2024.

If approved, grant funds must be used, and a final report submitted to us by June 1, 2025. *Good luck, and we can't wait to see your amazing ideas come to life!*

If you have questions, contact the CPSF office at 541-757-5857 or email Erika Seirup at erika.seirup@corvallis.k12.or.us