



2024 Grant guide

Over 40 grants available

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Awards for 3D printing



This guide is your go-to resource for securing funding to bring 3D printing to your classroom. Explore our list of 40 carefully curated grants, along with practical tips in our "10 Tips to Secure a Grant" section. Whether you're a seasoned applicant or new to grants, this guide is designed to streamline the process and enhance your chances of success.

Unlock the potential of 3D printing in education with MakerBot. Let's make this year one of innovation and hands-on learning!

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How to use this grant guide

This guide is your go-to resource for securing funding to bring 3D printing to your classroom. Explore our list of 40 carefully curated grants, along with practical tips in our "10 Tips to Secure a Grant" section. Whether you're a seasoned applicant or new to grants, this guide is designed to streamline the process and enhance your chances of success.

Please note

the grants, awards and scholarships listed in this guide are subject to change at the funding organization's discretion.

This guide is equipped with over 40 grants, awards, and scholarships that can be used to apply for funding for 3D printers, consumables, classroom enrichment programs & equipment, as well as professional development for educators.

1. Each funding opportunity specifies the applicable grade levels on the right side for easy reference.
2. As well as the application deadline and/or submission window.

Tips

If a grant has closed its submission window for the year, it's generally safe to anticipate a similar window for the upcoming year. To stay ahead, consider preparing your application in advance for the next submission period.

Motorola Solutions Foundation Innovation Generation Grants

Grants will be considered for programs supporting STEM for elementary through university students and teachers.

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Application Deadline

[Apply here](#)

Grants for the classroom



Motorola Solutions Foundation Innovation Generation Grants

Grants will be considered for programs supporting STEM for elementary through university students and teachers.

Application Deadline
February 2024

- Elementary
- Middle school
- High school
- Higher Ed

Pitsco Grant Application

This grant is awarded in the form of a gift certificate that may be used to purchase hands-on STEM products, curriculum, and more. Applications are accepted from the first day of each month to the last day of the month.

Application Deadline
Last day of each month.

- Elementary
- Middle school
- High school
- Higher Ed

Dr. Scholl Foundation

Applications for grants are considered in the following areas: Education, social service, healthcare, civic and cultural, and environmental. The Dr. Scholl Foundation application form can be submitted between October 1 and March 1 of the following year.

*Also available to Canada

Application Window
October 1 - March 1

- Elementary
- Middle school
- High school
- Higher Ed

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

An ongoing list of grants, scholarships, and awards for teachers in mathematics.

Application Deadline

Varies

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

National Science Foundation

An ongoing list of grants, scholarships, and awards.

*Also available to Canada

Application Deadline

Varies

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Lockheed Martin - Future STEM Workforce Grant

Grants will be considered for K-12 public schools and higher education institutions that cultivate the STEM workforce of the future. Applications are invitation only.

*Also available to Canada

Application Deadline

Rolling

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Alternative Fuel Foundation Grant

Funds are available for educational institutions to aid in the development of programs that promote renewable energy, environmental sustainability, and earth stewardship.

Application Deadline

Rolling, reviewed quarterly

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

NEA Learning and Leadership Grants

Grants will be considered for public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education who are members of NEA. Applications are reviewed 3 times per year.

Application Deadline

Rolling basis, window opens 3 times a year

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

NEA Student Achievement Grants

Grants are awarded for students in public schools, libraries and public higher education institutions who are members of the NEA. Applications are reviewed 3 times per year.

Application Deadline

Rolling basis, window opens 3 times a year

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Hearst Foundation

Grants will be considered with a focus on higher education students but K-12 educators are encouraged to apply. Applications are accepted year round and will be reviewed within 4-6 weeks.

Application Deadline

Rolling

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

HEB Excellence in Education Awards

Awards will be awarded to outstanding public school professionals who go the extra mile every day to serve their students and communities. Nominations and Applications open in May for the 2025 year.

Application Deadline

TBD

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

SRP Learning Grants for Schools, Teachers and Students

Grants will be awarded to schools, teachers and students who develop projects and programs geared towards state-mandated competencies. Funds can be used to support innovative teaching strategies that improve student performance objectives in math and science. Admission window opens in October.

*Only available to those in Arizona (Phoenix Metropolitan area)

Application Window

October - February

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Mazda Foundation Grant

The Mazda Foundation primarily considers grant applications from organizations located in markets where Mazda has offices (Irvine, CA; Bridgewater, NJ; Chicago, IL; Sugarland, TX; Jacksonville, FL; and Huntsville, AL).

Application Deadline

By Invitation

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Fund for Teachers

Fellowship proposals that prioritize teachers seeking solutions to their own, genuine problems of practice will be best aligned to our grant goals. In addition, proposals that have the potential to center students as change makers for problems in their communities are highly encouraged to apply.

*Only available to the Bay Area of California or Orlando, Florida

Application Deadline

01/18/2024

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

● Higher Ed

Walmart - Community Grant Program

Grants will be considered for K-12 public or private school, charter school, community/junior college, state/private college or university. Applications may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle. Please note that applications will only remain pending in our system for 90 days.

Application Window

Rolling, reviewed quarterly

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Westinghouse Charitable Giving Program

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Area needs to be within 50 miles of a U.S. Westinghouse site.
Grants will be considered for education with a focus on STEM.
Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Application Deadline

Not listed

AIAA Foundation Classroom Grant Program

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronauts is dedicated to the importance of STEM education and awards \$500 in grants to K-12 teachers who want to incorporate new ways of teaching science, technology, education and mathematics into their classroom. Submission window opens in June.

Application Window

June - September

NWA Sol Hirsh Education Fund Grants

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

The National Weather Association aims to support the importance of meteorology in elementary, middle and high school by awarding grants to teachers who demonstrate a commitment to improving the quality of meteorology education.

Application Deadline

TBD

Reiman Foundation

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

The Reiman Foundation focuses its giving in four main areas: Healthcare, education, the arts, and children. Applications are accepted all year-round.

*Also open to those in Canada

Application Deadline

Rolling Basis

Shell Science Lab Challenge - Academic Contest

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Science educators in middle and high school programs are able to apply to compete in the contest. The Challenge will portray the work of teachers who submit innovative, replicable strategies to deliver quality lab experiences with limited equipment/resources.

Submission window opens in Fall.

*Challenge only available to California, Texas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania

Application Deadline

March 11, 2024

DonorsChoose.org

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Connect to a thriving community of donors eager to fund classroom projects.

Application Deadline

Varies

Verizon Foundation Grants

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Grants will be considered for projects that promote STEM education and improve learning through the use of technology in the classroom.

Application Deadline

Must apply for invitation

Madison Community Foundation

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Greater Dane and Madison County, Wisconsin Areas Only. Grants will be considered for K-12 programs.

Application Deadline

06/03/24

The After School Advantage Program

Grants are limited to the state of Maine. The objective of the foundation is to provide a source of funding that enables teachers to be educational innovators who are committed to planning, risk taking and achieving timely results. Variety of grants considered for K-12 schools and academies.

Application Deadline

Various deadlines

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Perloff Family Foundation Grants

Connect to a thriving community of donors eager to fund classroom projects.

Application Deadline

Varies

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation for Academic Enrichment Grant

Grants will be considered for K-12 librarians and educators, who are employed by schools or non-profit organizations, with unique ideas for projects that supplement classroom curriculums for low-income households. Submission period is available from January 15 - April 15 every year.

Application Deadline

04/15/2024 or 200 submissions, if sooner.

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Voya Unsung Heroes

Grants will be considered for K-12 educators utilizing new teaching methods and techniques that carry out effective and innovative projects that improve student learning.

Application Deadline

04/19/2024

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Grants will be considered for any teacher (Pre-K – grade 12) or administrator in Ohio’s primary or secondary schools. All grants awarded to projects that align with one of our two themes, deep learning and excellent teaching. Every successful grant application clearly outlines a project that employs these primary themes.

Application Deadline

Rolling deadline

Webb Family Foundation

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

New applications and grant renewals are considered yearly for a general operating support grant. The foundation hosts one grant cycle per year. Both new considerations and grant renewals are evaluated together to identify the most outstanding organizations in the same cycle. Application window opens in January.

Application Deadline

TBA

General Motors Grant Program

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

General Motors believes that creating a global community will transform the world into one that is more livable, sustainable and prosperous. Our commitment is demonstrated through investments in STEM education, vehicle and road safety and community development. Only available for those in San Francisco Bay Area and Florida.

Application Deadline

Rolling

Toyota USA Foundation Grants

Grants will be considered for projects that promote STEM education and improve learning through the use of technology in the classroom. Refer to deadline for each facility on the grant website.

Application Deadline

Varies

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Best Buy School Tech Grants

Grants will be considered for elementary and secondary schools looking to bring new technologies into their classrooms to help students excel. Application window opens in Fall.

*Only available to those in Canada

Application Deadline

January of the following year

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Space STEM Initiatives for Youth

Grants will be considered for initiatives that include a focus or element related to increased awareness, knowledge, and/or experience of the space-related discipline among K-12 youth and educators.

*Only available to Canada

Application Deadline

4/30/24

● Elementary

● Middle school

● High school

Harbor Freight - Prize for Teaching Excellence

The Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence annually awards more than \$1 million to 18 outstanding skilled trades teachers and programs in U.S. public high schools.

Application Deadline

Spring 2024

● High school

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow

● Middle school

● High school

Academic Contest with a single winner per state

Teachers in STEM education complete a Solve for Tomorrow online Application to bring new technology to their school.

Application Deadline

Window opens late Fall semester

Toshiba America Foundation

● Middle school

● High school

Grade 6 - 12

Grants will be considered for grade level 6-12 teachers who are passionate about making science and mathematics more engaging in the classroom. Applications are accepted throughout the calendar year.

Application Deadline

Varies

Toshiba America Foundation

● Elementary

Kindergarten-Grade 5

Grants will be considered for grade level K-5 teachers to help bring an innovative hands-on project into their classroom.

Application Deadline

10/01/2024

Grants for professional development



McCarthy Dressman Education Foundation for Teacher Development

Grants will be considered for K-12 teachers employed in public or private schools.

Application Deadline

04/15/2024 or 200 submissions, if sooner.

Lockheed Martin - Vocational Scholarship

Grants will be considered for students, parents, family members, instructors, school administrators, or those just interested in STEM. Lockheed Martin's Vocational Scholarship Program will award up to \$5,000 to as many as 150 recipients.

Application Deadline

April 1, 2024

ITEA FTEE Undergraduate Scholarship

Grants will be considered for undergraduate FTEE members majoring in technology and engineering education teacher preparation.

Application Deadline

11/01/2024

ITEA FTEE Teacher Professional Development Scholarship

The grant's purpose is to support teachers in their preparation to increase the positive outcomes of technology and engineering education.

Application Deadline

11/01/2024

ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Classroom Grants

ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Classroom Grants support ideas and higher level educators that enhance classroom learning, foster student development, and reveal the wonders of chemistry.

Application Deadline

Multiple deadlines

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

An ongoing list of grants, scholarships, and awards for teachers in mathematics.

Application Deadline

Varies

Imperial Oil - University Research Awards

Awards for specific research projects are made to full-time faculty members to support research work carried out by university students under their direction.

*Only open to those in Canada

Application Deadline

12/31/24

National Science Foundation

An ongoing list of grants, scholarships, and awards.

*Also available to Canada

Application Deadline

Varies

DonorsChoose.org

Connect to a thriving community of donors eager to fund classroom projects.

Application Deadline

Varies

NEA Learning and Leadership Grants

Grants will be considered for public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education who are members of NEA. Applications are reviewed 3 times per year.

Application Deadline

Varies

Federal Funding



ESSER III Funding - Still Available!

Esser funding provides flexibility to address various needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Leveraging ESSER funds ensures continuity of learning and promotes equitable access to quality education through online platforms.

How Can I Use These Funds?

1. ESSER funds can be used to support online learning programs.
2. Funds can be utilized for technology infrastructure, devices, software platforms, and digital resources for online instruction.
3. ESSER funds can be allocated for training educators in virtual teaching methodologies.

Perkins Funds

Federal legislation that aims to support the improvement and expansion of CTE programs, including the integration of technology and equipment that aligns with workforce needs.

How Can I Use These Funds?

1. Perkins funding is distributed through competitive grant programs to states, which then allocate funds to eligible local educational agencies and institutions.
2. The acquisition of equipment, materials, and technology that enhance CTE instruction and prepare students for careers in various industries.
3. Can be used for funding 3D printing programs as part of CTE programs.

Title I Funds

Title I is a federal program that provides financial assistance to schools and districts serving a high percentage of students from low-income families. While the primary focus of Title I is on improving academic achievement, some funds may be allocated for technology-enhanced instruction and resources.

How Can I Use These Funds?

1. **Device Acquisition:** Devices that support digital learning initiatives and provide students with access to technology resources.
2. **Software & Online Resources:** Online resources that support instruction, personalized learning, and educational engagement.
3. **Professional Development:** For programs focused on technology integration, digital literacy, and effective use of educational technologies in the classroom.

Title II Funds

It aims to improve the quality of instruction by enhancing teachers' knowledge, skills, and effectiveness in the classroom with emphasis on professional development for educators to enhance instructional practices, including the integration of technology.

How Can I Use These Funds?

1. Support professional development opportunities for educators that focus on technology integration and the effective use of educational technologies in teaching and learning.
2. Address initiatives that focus on enhancing instructional practices, promoting educator effectiveness, and addressing the specific needs of teachers and school leaders.

10 Tips to secure a grant for your classroom or school



Winning a grant can be the difference between better resources for the classroom or funding an entire program. To help you secure a grant, we put together ten key tips:

1

Start by Planning and Preparing for Your Grant Application

To submit a strong application on time, you will need to stay organized, build a list of all the documents or information you need, and assess how long it will take you to actually complete the application.

2

Follow Proper Protocols Even Before You Apply

In some states and school districts, you are required to obtain approval from a school board before requesting grants over a certain dollar amount. Don't put yourself through the work of a grant application only to later learn it's disqualified because of this protocol or others like it.

3

Plan out Implementation of the Grant

The person who applies for the grant isn't necessarily the one who implements it. Before you apply, you should have a very clear idea and plan of how it will be implemented, who will do so, and how success will be evaluated afterward.

4

Find Sources and Build a Strategic List — Starting with the 2024 MakerBot Grant Guide

To keep your research efficient, start by scouring the internet for the best places that list grants and then build a strategic list to work through. Both [Grants 4 Teachers](#) and [Grants.gov](#) are sites to bookmark and use along with the 2024 MakerBot Grant Guide.

You will want to start small and apply for grants that seem like the easiest to secure. Since you might need to apply for a variety, it's helpful to prioritize that list for your goals — whether it's by dollar amount or easiest-to-win.

5

Carefully Study an Example of a Successful Grant Application

Many foundations and other grant sources provide an example of a successful application. Even if you have plenty of experience, you will want to study an example in case there are any unusual requirements. In the event when you cannot find the right sample, you can also try to contact a grant winner for a copy of their application.

6

Develop a Template for the Key Elements of an Application

Most grant proposals require the following at the very least; however, be prepared to include more.

1. **An Introduction to Your Organization**
Describe your school and its mission
2. **The Project Description**
Give a concise summary of goal and solution, what you hope to achieve, funding level sought, and identify your population
3. **Your Needs**
State the problem that you want to address or fix
4. **The Solution**
Specify how the grant fits into your larger solution
5. **Your Project Plan and Activities**
Outline how your project will proceed
6. **Your Budget**
Scope out an exacting budget, not a loose estimate
7. **How You Evaluate Success**
Define the measure of success for your program

7

Source Compelling Statistics and Facts

Since you aren't the only school applying for a grant, you need to separate your application from the rest. Citing compelling statistics can add objective power to your case. Reference [MakerBot's Trend Report in EDU & 3D Printing](#) for helpful facts and statistics.

8

Request a Precise, Accurate Funding Amount

Be exacting when you request grant funding. If you ask for more than the grant offers, then your application will likely be disqualified. If you underestimate, then you will have to make up for the rest of the money. Also, always remember to account for small grant fees, like shipping and sales tax. To get a free custom quote for the 3D printer solution you are looking for, contact hello@makerbot.com.

9

Workshop Your Grant Writing

To step up your grant applications, you might consider attending a workshop or listening to webinars. Leveraging the experience, intelligence, and feedback of others can only sharpen your skills.

10

Proof Your Application Relentlessly

Your grant application should be as inscrutable as possible. Even small errors, like typos, can lead to doubts about the seriousness of your application. Once you are done, step back, take a big-picture look at your application, and then send it off.

Good luck!

10-Step classroom 3D printing action checklist



The MakerBot Education Team is proud to offer the industry's most fully-supported 3D printing solutions for educators. Use this comprehensive checklist as a way to really envision what your classroom will look like with 3D printing capabilities.

1 Set STEM Learning Goals

1. Define Your STEM Learning Goals.
What does success look like in your classroom or school? How can implementing a 3D printer help you to further meet these goals?
2. Watch the [Montclair School District Case Study](#).
Learn how the Montclair school district in New Jersey successfully activated 3D printing across all grade levels to empower their STEM education goals.

2 Consider Your Physical Space

1. Classroom Layout.
Will the 3D printer live in a dedicated classroom or be accessed by multiple students in a shared lab environment or travel cart?
2. 3D Printer Placement.
Consider ease of accessibility for students to interact with the printer.

3 Determine How Many 3D Printers You Need

1. Consider Student Access.
Minimize waiting times and encourage students to test their ideas freely with the right ratio of 3D printers to students. Every learning scenario is different, and we encourage you to get in touch with a MakerBot Education Specialist to find the right solution for your specific needs: hello@makerbot.com.

2. Combine Multiple Student Projects.

To save time, some instructors combine multiple student projects into one large print file to maximize a single printer or a limited number of printers.

4 Determine Your Budget

1. Talk with District Administrators or Your Principal.

Some schools already have a budget allocated for STEM programs and technology.

2. Utilize the MakerBot Educators Grant Guide.

Use this guide to find Grants that are applicable to different grade levels, learning environments, and STEM initiatives.

5 Get Started with Tinkercad

1. Create an account at [Tinkercad.com](https://www.tinkercad.com).

Tinkercad is a free browser-based 3D design tool for all educators and students. It can be accessed on most devices including iPads and Chromebooks.

2. Complete the Free Tinkercad Tutorials.

Getting started with Tinkercad is the first step in creating your own 3D printable files. By completing the tutorials, you'll be better set up for success when translating your lesson plans and designs to 3D printable files.

6 Explore Free Resources from MakerBot Education

1. Browse Thingiverse Education.

With over 600 free lesson plans (some aligned with national standards) and an active educator community, Thingiverse Education is an invaluable resource for educators to ask questions, find lesson plan ideas, and become involved in the world's largest 3D printing community. (Browse at <https://www.thingiverse.com/education>)

2. [Download the MakerBot Educators Guidebook.](#)

This definitive guide to 3D printing in the classroom contains an in-depth introduction to 3D printing followed by 9 curated lesson plans created by our MakerBot Educators and vetted by experts.

7 Use MakerBot's Trends in 3D Printing and STEAM Education Report

1. Outline the Value of 3D Printing.

MakerBot's new report on Trends in 3D Printing and STEAM Education aims to identify how STEAM subjects are being taught and the factors for 3D printing adoption in education. The report highlights 3D printing activities across grade levels, common applications, different teaching methods, and plans for virtual learning from over 1,000 respondents within our global network of educators. (Access report)

2. Share with District Administrators or Your Principal.

Share this deck or use in a meeting to present the case for purchasing a single or multiple 3D printers at your institution.

8 Become MakerBot Certified™ While Earning PD Credits

1. Level 1: Operator Certification.

Become a MakerBot 3D printing expert. Learn how to set up and manage your 3D printer, create your first prints, and troubleshoot common issues. ([Learn more about our Certification program.](#))

2. Level 2: Curriculum Creator.

Establish yourself and gain confidence as a STEM education leader. Learn how to teach the 3D printing process and develop your own 3D printing lesson plans and projects.

9 Get Started 3D Printing!

1. Don't Be Afraid to Experiment.

Teaching yourself how to use the 3D printer during class can be a shared learning experience for you and your students.

2. Be a 'Learning Model'.

Becoming a 3D designer and 'printer' yourself is the best way to inspire your students to do the same while embracing the learning process.

10 Keep Learning, Keep Printing!

1. Grow on what you learn.

The more you interact with 3D printers and modeling programs the more amazing applications you'll discover. Find how educators have been using 3D printing through our [resources page](#).

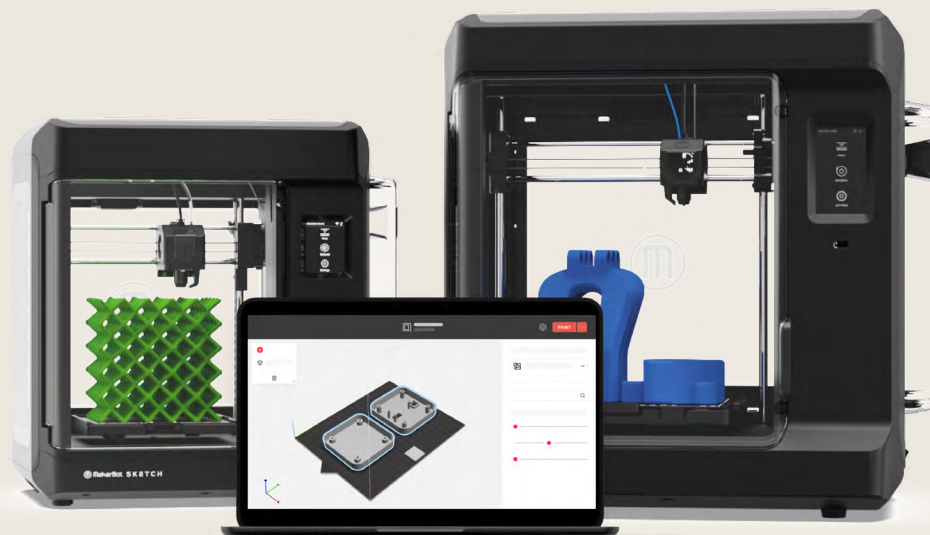
2. Encourage Student Mistakes.

As you and your students begin to think in 3D, keep in mind that mistakes are an essential part of the process. Each point of failure offers a critical learning opportunity while bringing students one step closer to innovation. See how students have used 3D printing [here](#).

Ready to get started?

The MakerBot education system

Empowering educators with all the essentials for seamless 3D printing integration in the classroom.



Shaping Education Together, from Kindergarten to Higher Education.

At MakerBot, we're dedicated to shaping education together with tailored 3D printing solutions for every stage of learning.



