



Innovative Engagement and Organizing Grant

The purpose of this grant is to build member engagement in ways that we haven't done before. Member engagement and organizing is the heart of our association and therefore we need to innovate and think creatively about ways to expand what our association does, whom we engage with, and how we engage with them.

We recognize that a distributive leadership model brings about broader involvement and that a top-down approach is limiting. Through this grant we seek to build engagement and potential leaders in new ways. We expect grantees to share results and findings with each other and with the larger association.

These grants are opportunities for all members to develop innovative ideas and have the resources to put them into action. We are interested in ideas not yet pursued and want to build a laboratory for experimentation.

Things you need to know

1. Applications are encouraged from members within a local or across various locals. Including but not limited to: emerging leaders, SPARKS, retirees, ESP, local leaders, new teachers, administrators, etc.
2. Members can apply directly to MSEA.
3. Each grant is for one year with the option to renew for an additional year.
4. The total amount available for all grants is \$20,000 with individual grants typically ranging between \$2,500 to \$500.
5. There will be a minimum of three meetings to share progress and have the opportunity to collaborate among the grantees.
6. There will be a summative report shared in the Spring.
7. Applicants should be able to describe the impact they expect to make and how they will know if their work has made a difference in engaging and organizing members.

Timeline

July 6: Application deadline. Local presidents and UniServ will be notified of the received application.

August 1: Notification of Grant Awards

September 14: Disbursement of Grant Awards

To Apply

Tell the story of your project with innovative supplemental materials of your choice. The written narrative should be no more than 1,000 words (roughly 2-4 pages).

You may demonstrate how your project is innovative and engages both you and members by including optional supplemental items such as YouTube videos, charts, presentations, skits, tweets, mashups, haikus, webpages, and limericks (have fun!).

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Your application should consider and reflect answers to the following questions:

- Who will you better engage and/or organize?
- How will you accomplish this? (with an emphasis on how your proposal is different than current practice)
- Where did your idea come from?
- What data will inform your program and its success?
- What is your project timeline, and what milestones would you identify?
- How much grant money are you requesting and what will you spend it on? What supports are needed from a local level and a state level?
- A year from now, what differences do you expect to see because of this grant and what do you expect to learn?

Please indicate on the grant the names of the members applying.

We encourage electronic submission of applications to: Natasha Eckart-Baning, neckart-baning@mseane.org

Applications also may be submitted in hard copy to: Natasha Eckart-Baning, TABCO, 305 East Joppa Road, Towson MD 21286

Decisions on grants will be made by the MSEA Strategic Planning Task Force, made up of members and staff from across the state.

Financial Details

Receipts are required for all expenditures. Grant funds should not be used to reimburse individuals for mileage to attend meetings or to reimburse staff time.

MSEA's goal is to make grants payable to the grantee's local. In the unlikely event that this is not possible, grants could be made payable to the grantee. In such a case, if an individual is paid a grant of \$2,000 in September and MSEA does not receive documentation of the expenses it was used on by December 31, 2018 we will have to issue a Form 1099 to the individual in January 2019. In such a case, grant funds will be taxable income to the individual.