

**Career-Connected STEM Grants
Evaluation Rubric
2026-2027**



				Yes	No
Is the request outside of expected system expenditures?				Funding may be considered	Funding <u>may not</u> be considered
Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
Career Connection (25%)	Little or no meaningful connection to STEM careers.	Career connection is mentioned but minimally integrated into instruction.	Career connection is evident but is not the primary focus of the project.	Career connection is clear and meaningful but lacks one element needed for an exemplary rating.	Career connection is authentic, central to the project, includes industry interaction or authentic workplace applications, and students clearly understand how classroom learning relates to STEM careers.
Student Learning & Impact (20%)	Minimal evidence of meaningful student impact.	Learning impact is limited or outcomes are unclear.	Project provides meaningful learning with partially defined outcomes.	Project demonstrates strong impact with measurable outcomes.	Project will have a significant, measurable impact on student learning and engagement.
Project Design & Hands-on Learning (20%)	Project is primarily passive or lacks sufficient planning.	Limited hands-on learning or project details.	Project includes some active learning but could be strengthened.	Project is well planned with meaningful hands-on learning experiences.	Project is exceptionally well designed and immerses students in authentic, hands on problem solving.
Development of Life Skills (critical thinking, creativity, communication, collaboration, adaptability, etc.) (15%)	Little or no evidence of life skills	Vital life skills are mentioned but not intentionally developed.	One or two vital life skills are addressed.	Several vital life skills are intentionally incorporated.	Project intentionally develops multiple vital life skills throughout the experience.

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Feasibility & Sustainability (10%)	Project does not appear feasible as proposed.	Implementation concerns are evident.	Project is generally feasible but needs additional detail.	Project is feasible with only minor questions.	Timeline, implementation plan, and resources are realistic and provide lasting classroom value.
Budget Alignment (10%)	Budget is poorly aligned with project objectives.	Budget includes questionable or unnecessary expenses.	Budget generally supports the project but lacks some justification.	Budget is appropriate with minor clarification needed.	Budget is well justified, reasonable, and directly supports project goals.