

Guidelines

Partners in Science Supplemental Program

Enriching Science Teaching Through Research

PARTNERS IN SCIENCE / THE BASIC AWARDS PROGRAM

Although some high school science teachers have had the opportunity to participate in an undergraduate research program, many have been educated in a system which emphasizes textbook knowledge. As a result, these teachers may not have been exposed to scientific inquiry and the ways in which science progresses, and thus may not be able to convey the excitement of scientific discovery to their students. For these teachers, the chance to be involved in scientific research would be an invaluable experience which might inspire superior classroom teaching.

The primary goal of the Partners in Science Program is to provide high school teachers with opportunities to do scientific research, thus revitalizing their teaching and helping them to appreciate the use of inquiry-based methods in the teaching of science. High school teachers begin to see themselves as scientists as well as being an integral part of the scientific community. Teachers will be a part of a cohort of teachers that will form a professional learning community and will present their research at a national science conference in January after each summer of research. Faculty mentors benefit not only from research assistance, but from contact with those shaping their future students. All partners develop broader understanding of the linkages between high school and college science education.

After the two summers of research are completed, secondary goals of the Partners in Science program are to invigorate teachers in their teaching careers, to develop new teaching strategies that help their students also see themselves as scientists, and to foster long-term scholarly collaborations which lead to teachers who are active in science yet committed to their high school classrooms.

Consistent with these goals, the basic Partners in Science program grant provides support for a high school science teacher to spend two successive summers doing research with an active scientist in a qualifying research laboratory.

PARTNERS IN SCIENCE / THE SUPPLEMENTAL AWARDS PROGRAM

Teachers who have completed the Partners in Science Program two-year research experience may apply for supplemental awards, allowing these teachers to implement into their high school classrooms many ideas that were gained from the research. These awards are made in response to separate applications and are given directly to the teachers' high schools. It is expected that each application for a supplemental award will describe some way in which an aspect of the earlier research experience will be transferred into the high school classroom.

ELIGIBILITY

Supplemental Awards are made to the public and private high schools of teachers who have just completed the two-year Partners in Science/Basic Program research experience in the preceding summer.

Applications are accepted from teachers only during the first semester after they complete their research. All applicants must be active in science classroom teaching and have a full-time high school appointment.

BUDGETS

Prior to preparing the budget, you will need to know the total amount of non-Trust matching funds available for this project. Note: The Trust provides \$2,000 for travel over two years to the national January conference and those monies cannot move to any other category.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET			
HOW MUCH I HAVE TO SPEND			
	Travel to two January Conferences (provided by the Trust)		\$2,000
	Basic equipment grant from the Trust		\$2,000
	Matching Funds pledged from the School (the Trust will match pledges up to \$2,000) plus any additional School funds		
	Matching Funds from the Trust (3:1 match of up to \$6,000)		
	Total		
HOW MUCH I'M GOING TO SPEND			
VENDOR	ITEM/DESCRIPTION	Subtotal	Total
	Travel (provided by the Trust):		
	Travel Total		\$2,000
	Equipment:		
	Equipment Total		\$
	Supplies:		
	Supplies Total		\$
	Other:		
	Other Total		\$
(A) COST TOTAL			\$
AMOUNT PROVIDED BY SCHOOL OR DISTRICT			\$
AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM PARTNERS IN SCIENCE PROGRAM (Maximum of \$10,000)			\$

There is considerable flexibility within the budget, as monies may be requested for equipment and supplies. Expendables like supplies and transportation, if they are essential for the success of the project, may be asked for, with the expectation that the school will pick up these costs in future years. Indirect costs or overhead and academic year salaries are not allowed. Trust-provided *travel monies are meant to be used directly for travel expenses and should not be used to pay substitute teachers*. High School matching monies may come directly from school or school district funds, or from other local sources. The signed application documents commitment of these matching funds.

THE PARTNERS SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION PROCESS

Invitations to submit proposals will be sent to all Qualified Candidates. (Applications are accepted from teachers only during the first semester after they complete their Partners in Science program research experience. All applicants must be active in science classroom teaching and have a full-time high school appointment.)

Completed applications must be received at the Trust by **December 1** and must be submitted by the school or school district through the Submittable grants portal. Some past recipients have requested personal/sub days to allow time to write this application. Awards can be made only to institutions that qualify as eligible non-profit organizations, either by virtue of their own non-profit status, or as public schools within the state education system.

Completed applications will be reviewed by a committee set up by the Murdock Trust. The committee will consider the qualifications of the teacher, the degree to which the proposed project draws strength from the just-completed research experience, and the potential of the proposed project to affect long-term benefit for science teaching at the school.

Should you have any questions related to this program, contact Angela Little for advice (angelal@murdocktrust.org or 360-694-8415).

BACKGROUND OF PARTNERS IN SCIENCE

Research Corporation for Science Advancement, a foundation for the advancement of science with headquarters in Tucson, Arizona, initiated this program in 1988 as an experimental venture to improve science education and increase the number of students choosing science as a career. The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust joined the Research Corporation in 1990, funding the program in the Pacific Northwest, and providing some additional support services to Partners in that region. When Research Corporation withdrew from the program, the Murdock Trust accepted the challenge of continuing the program in the Pacific Northwest.

The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust was created by the will of the cofounder of Tektronix, Inc., the late Melvin J. (Jack) Murdock. Established in 1975 as a private foundation, the Murdock Trust seeks to nurture and enrich the educational, cultural, social, and spiritual base in creative and sustainable ways. The Trust has a particular interest in education and scientific research and the contributions they can make to society.