



CREED / CREED FOUNDATION  
COMMUNITY GRANTS  
GUIDELINES





## CREED / CREED FOUNDATION COMMUNITY GRANTS POLICY

### Overview

CREED's Community Grant Initiative supports innovative education programs and projects that help increase educational attainment in the El Paso region by fostering systemic change to the educational system using innovative approaches and incorporating innovation as an integral part of implementing a mission of post-secondary preparation for all students.

CREED will review requests and award competitive grants in accordance with the fourteen guidelines set out below. Grant decisions are made on an ongoing basis once all materials and guideline answers have been provided.

All grant awards must be approved by the CREED Board. Notification of grant approval or denial will be provided after the CREED Board has made a decision.

### Grant Application Requirements

Grant requests may be sent to CREED via email at [grants@CREED.org](mailto:grants@CREED.org), and must provide answers on how the grant matches the Grant Guidelines below. CREED asks the same questions of every applicant. All applicants should be prepared to provide the following:

- A brief description of the group or organization that is applying and, if different than the requestor, that will lead the proposed project, including any past record of successful education outcomes.
- Brief bios of the applicant's senior staff members and Board of Directors.
- A detailed budget request and budget narrative with the specific amount requested along with a breakdown of expenses, and if applicable, a payment structure for grant funds.
- Date of deadline for receipt of funds, which is subject to CREED's funding requirements.

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- Detailed description of the project, including goals, metrics, and geographic scope.
- Project timeline.
- Current operating budget (if applicable) and proposed project budget.
- List of current and pending funding sources, including source and amounts.
- Amount of total Board of Directors contributions for the past 24 months, and percentage of Board members who have contributed to the organization.
- Letter of determination reflecting IRS tax exempt status dated no more than five years from the grant application date.
- Answers to the questions presented in the CREED Grant Evaluation Guidelines.

### Grant Evaluation Guidelines

Grants will be evaluated according to the following criteria. These guidelines ensure that CREED Community Grants support investments that are sustainable, scalable, and have a positive strategic impact on increasing educational attainment. It is not necessary to satisfy each of these criteria in order to receive funding, but applicants must address all the questions raised in these guidelines:

1. Will the request help transform the status quo of the k-12 system in El Paso? If so, what is the extent of the transformation?
2. Does the request expand the number of high-performing seats in the system (e.g., support efforts to ensure students graduate high-school college ready without the need for remediation)? If so, how many are projected, over what period of time, and will the system sustain them once expanded?
3. To what degree does the request address CREED's focus on producing more college-ready graduates (e.g., those able to obtain a post-secondary education

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or credential within a maximum of 6 years from initial enrollment if pursuing a bachelor's degree)?

4. What are the expected outcomes of the grant request; what impact will the outcomes provide; and over what period of time?
5. How many students will benefit from the request and over what period of time? Will the effort expand to include more students, and if so, what is the timeline for expansion?
6. Does the Grant Requestor have the resources needed to implement this program? If not, what leadership and teacher resources are required to achieve the objectives of the request?
7. How will CREED's investment be leveraged to maintain and/or expand the proposed program or project, and will the requestor support the program through its own budget? How does the Grant Requestor intend to sustain the program beyond CREED's initial investment?
8. Will the benefits associated with the request be shared with or provide access to other educational institutions to allow for expansion of the effort beyond the original intended recipients?
9. Is the governing board (e.g., school board) or superintendent aware and supportive of this request? If so, are there any dissenters, and what is the basis for their dissent? If there is no leadership support, how is the program sustainable?
10. How will parents be informed about the opportunities presented by this request? Will the program be pursued on an open-enrollment basis or a geographically restricted basis? If the program focuses on a targeted population, please elaborate.
11. Is the Grant Requestor accessing any state-sponsored money for this request? If not, why not? Will it consider doing so?



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12. Would the Grant Requestor consider modifications in order to expand the number of students who will benefit from this program or the number of high-performing seats)?
13. Who is the Grant Requestor partnering with for this request and what is the partner's past level of success in expanding high-performing seats?
14. How will the Grant Requestor measure the outcomes the request is designed to achieve from a student capability standpoint and over what period of time? What are the mid-point metrics, and what is the ultimate goal?