

High Ability Competitive Grant:

The High Ability Competitive Grant supports districts that have assessed their current high ability program implementation and are prepared to take the next steps to provide enhanced, advanced learning experiences for their high ability students.

Goal of the High Ability Competitive Grant: Provide high ability students with advanced learning experiences

Each school corporation may submit a competitive grant proposal that addresses **one or more** of the fundamental requirements of Indiana high ability education.

- **A Multifaceted Student Assessment Plan**
- **A Curriculum and Instructional Strategies Plan**
- **A Counseling and Guidance Plan**
- **A Professional Development Plan**
- **A Systematic Program Assessment Plan**

Allowable uses of funds include, but are not limited to: direct services for students, extended learning opportunities (after, before school, summer), professional development for teachers and administrators, salaries of personnel to carry out identified programs and services, supplemental educational resources, and equipment.

Improve high ability student achievement and affective education by improving:

- Advanced reading, language arts, and mathematics curriculum/ programs
 - Programs may include, but are not limited to: increasing the availability and enrollment in Pre-AP, AP, Cambridge, or IB programs.
- Career and college counseling/guidance
 - This may include, but is not limited to: counseling programs and services, SENG training, assistance applying for college entrance and financial aid, advising on academic and occupational training, transition programs, and preparing for college aptitude tests.
- Other courses, activities, and programs, or other experiences contributing to advanced learning experiences

- Creative, compassion service learning projects are permissible, provided there is an adult sponsor to oversee the project.
- Funding can be spent on extended learning opportunities (before/after school/summer programming, such as GERI)

Scoring

1. Program Prioritized Needs (5 pts)
2. Importance/Need for the Project(s) (5 pts)
3. Executive Summary of the Proposed Project(s) (5 pts)
4. Expected Measurable Outcomes/Project Deliverables (5 pts)
5. Project Evaluation Plan (5 pts)
6. Professional Development (5 pts)
7. Exemplar (5 pts)
8. Necessary Components (5 pts)
9. Total Points Possible (40 pts)

Grant Proposal Elements

1. Program Prioritized Needs: Briefly describe the capacity of your current infrastructure to support high ability education. Describe your prioritized needs to advance the learning of your high ability students.
2. Importance/Need for the Project(s): Why do you want to do this? What is the potential impact of the project? Describe the rationale tied to the needs assessment, stakeholder input, and/or data.
3. Executive Summary of the Proposed Project(s): Describe the project you are proposing to fund with this grant and how it will provide more advanced learning opportunities for students in your district.
4. Expected Measurable Outcomes/Project Deliverables: What are the measurable outcomes for this project?
5. Project Evaluation Plan: How will you measure activities to determine if outcomes/deliverables are achieved? Describe how and with what frequency your program will be evaluated for effectiveness. Please state the individual(s) responsible for evaluation.
6. Professional Development: What professional development opportunities will your leadership or teaching faculty participate in to support high ability instructional models?

7. Exemplar: Describe one example of what teaching and learning would look like in your district following the implementation of your proposed project.
8. Necessary components: Contact information, proposal elements, leadership team, budget estimate, investments, and assurances are completed.

Grant Review Process

1. Grants will be assigned to two separate reviewers, and the scores will be averaged.
 - a. If there is a discrepancy of more than 20 percent between reviews, a third reviewer will be assigned. All three scores will then be averaged.
2. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has determined a cut score of 32 will be eligible for funding.
3. Once capacity to fund grants is met, if schools have a tie score, the census poverty data of the population of the district will be utilized to determine funding as the tie-breaking factor.
 - a. Districts and schools with 95 percent hold harmless will be given three points
 - b. Districts and schools with 90 percent hold harmless will be given two points
 - c. Districts and schools with 85 percent hold harmless will be given one point
4. Successful applicants will be notified with an award memo and contract. The contract will be for one year, and all invoices must be received within 60 days of the expiration date.

Application link: [High Ability Competitive Grant Application, 2019](#)

Itemized rubric link: [Itemized Rubric](#)

Rubric link: [High Ability Competitive Grant Rubric](#)