EXCEL Foundation, Inc.

**Purpose of EXCEL (EXtras to Create Excellence in Learning)**“EXCEL FOUNDATION, INC. is a broadly-based, non-profit community organization whose purpose is exclusively educational and charitable, and is to secure and distribute contributions from individuals, corporations, governmental agencies, and foundations for the benefit of the students in the Coeur d’Alene School District 271.”

**Mission**

Energizing education by awarding innovative and creative grants to benefit students in Coeur d’Alene Public Schools.

**Values**

Innovation, Education, Motivation, Creativity, Community.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Grants Funded** | **Amount Funded** |
| Since 1986 |  1,514 | Over 3 Million! |

**Signature Grant Application 2025**

**WHAT IS THE “***SIGNATURE GRANT”* **?**

The goal of creating an EXCEL “Signature Grant” is to make a larger impact in our district and accommodate a bigger and bolder grant request that continues to align with EXCEL’s mission. The expectation is that every school within Coeur d’Alene School District 271 will submit a grant proposal. Our goal is to offer this grant every two years, based on funding availability.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The Signature Grant is made available only for Coeur d’Alene School District 271 school Principals and Vice-Principals to apply. Principals are encouraged to engage, collaborate, and brainstorm with their staff, PTO’s, community stakeholders, and administrative support teams to put forth a well-crafted, thoughtful request.

* All grants must be sponsored and submitted by that school’s Principal or Vice-Principal.
* Grants may be a multi-school collaboration.
* The grant should impact the most students possible, for instance an entire school or grade level.
* The grant should align with the school district’s 3 “I’s” – with the goal to *1.) Innovate 2.) Inspire 3.) Invest* and applicants will need to articulate how their grant will fulfill these goals.
* Grant funding requested should not exceed $25,000.
* Requests should explain the need. Priority will be given to those grants that are creative, collaborative, sustainable, and have a long-term impact.

**CRITERIA**

The following criteria are used to guide the selection process: the grant must offer students opportunities that promote:

* Creativity
* Depth of knowledge
* Excellence in education
* Higher level thinking skills
* Increased motivation to learn

Applicants are encouraged to think "outside the box" in developing a project that would have a lasting impact and bring joy to their school and teachers. It is not required that a project's goals be directly related to state standards or improved standardized test scores.

**TIMELINE**

* **Monday, March 24, 2025:** 4:00 pm deadline to submit application
* **Friday, April 11, 2025:** Notification regarding grant semi-finalists will be sent to the top 3-4 submittals notifying they have advanced their grant to be presented to the EXCEL Foundation Board.
* **Friday, May 2, 2025 – Semi-Finalists Presentations*.*** If your Grant was selected as a semi-finalist, please prepare a 15-minute presentation explaining your use of funds and the impact the grant will have on your students, teachers, and community.
	+ Presentations can be as creative as needed to express the benefits of your grant and may include students, teachers, or other community members as you see fit.
* **Friday, May 9, 2025:** Signature Grant Awarded
* Grants need to be in action by the end of the 2025-2026 school year
* Notification must be given to EXCEL Board of Directors for visitation/observation of awarded grant. Please allow 1 week prior notice.
* Grant evaluation/reflection is expected to be submitted to EXCEL within 30 days of completion of grant.

**APPLICATION PROCESS and GRANT DEADLINE**

* **Monday, March 24, 2025 4:00 pm deadline:**
	+ Applications should be written in 12-point font. (Preferred font: Times New Roman)
	+ Submit one (1) fully completed hard copy of your grant application to the Coeur d’Alene School District #271 office**.**
	+ Email a completed copy of your grant application to excel@cdaschools.org You will receive a reply email acknowledging receipt with your assigned grant number.
* Please make a copy of the grant application for your records.
* Grants will be reviewed and scored according to EXCEL policies

On behalf of the EXCEL Board of Directors, I thank you for your efforts in applying for an EXCEL (EXtras to Create Excellence in Learning) Foundation Signature Grant.

Katie Morrisroe, Chair of Allocations

EXCEL Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 2469

Coeur d’Alene, ID 83816-2469

[www.excelfoundation.org](http://www.excelfoundation.org)

Email: excel@cdaschools.org

For questions regarding the application: Please contact Katie Morrisroe directly at huckleberrygirls@gmail.com

**EXCEL FOUNDATION ALLOCATION POLICIES**

1. The goal of **EXCEL Foundation, Inc. (EXCEL)** is to fund creative and innovative student-oriented projects that exceed the state’s funding obligation and are not provided for by existing school support systems.
2. An inventory of equipment, provided by the Coeur d’Alene School District, must be consulted prior to funding to assure equipment compatibility. If applying for a technology grant, the district technology coordinator must review and approve your materials before submission to EXCEL.
3. Grant applications will be read, reviewed and voted on by all committee members and EXCEL Board representatives. The Allocation Committee Chairman’s vote will be counted only in the event of a tie.
4. EXCEL will obtain district approval of the chosen semi-finalists' applications prior to presentations to the EXCEL Board of Directors.
5. Qualifications and merits of grant applications will be discussed and evaluated by Allocation committee members. Up to four grant applications which meet the criteria will be chosen and recommended for the next round of presentations.
6. All applications and other matters discussed in Allocation Committee meetings will be held in strictest confidence.
7. Materials purchased with EXCEL funds are gifted to Coeur d’Alene School District #271. The Primary Applicant of the grant is responsible for the materials and all materials must remain with that school or schools.
8. EXCELwill not fund food, in-service training for staff, furniture, or wages/salaries of employees of the Coeur d’Alene School District; however, EXCEL may consider funding outside consultants or experts only if they are an integral, vital component of the overall objectives of the project.
9. $25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand) is the maximum grant amount.
10. Sustainability of your grant is not guaranteed year to year.
11. The goals, objectives, materials, and equipment are compatible with School District 271 policy.

Identification #: 2025\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Total Amount Requested\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature Grant Application**

**Cover Sheet**

**On-line format**

*.*

**Grant title:**

**Name of School(s):**

**Name(s) of Grant Writer(s):**

**Name of Principal/Administrator(s):**

**Email address(s):**

**Curriculum area(s):**

**Grade level(s):**

**Number of students directly involved:**

**Has funding for this project been requested from other sources?**

**If yes, what source?**

**Has EXCEL funded this project in the past?**

**If yes, what year?**

**The signatures required below certify the following:**

1. The funds requested for this grant exceed the state’s funding obligation and are not provided for by the existing school support system.
2. The goals, objectives, materials, and equipment are compatible with School District 271 policy.

**Signature of principal/administrator: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signatures of all other instructors directly involved with the project: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**If your grant includes technology/devices it must be approved by the School District 271 Technology Coordinator.**

This grant has been approved by the District’s Technology Coordinator. YES\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

Identification #: 2025\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Amount requested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**EXCEL Foundation, Inc. Signature Grant Application 2025**

**Grant title:**

**A. Project Summary**

 Please explain your project. Is this taking place in the classroom or school wide? What do you want to achieve? This short summary should stand alone to explain the proposal.

**B. Goals and Objectives**

Applicability to support EXCEL Goals*.* The EXCEL Foundation, Inc. requests grants that promote:

* Creativity
* Depth of knowledge
* Excellence in education
* Higher level thinking skills
* Increased motivation to learn
* Aligns with the district’s 3 “I’s” - innovate, inspire, invest

The specific Goals and Objectives of your application do not need to be related to state standards. Describe your project goals and student-centered objectives. Explain how your project will support and promote EXCEL goals.

**C. Evaluation and Outcomes:**

How will you evaluate the success of the project?

**D. Sustainability:**

Will this project sustain itself after initial funding? If future funding is required, explain your plan for sustainability?

**E. Timeline**

EXCEL expects the grant to be active in the school(s) during the school year 2025-26.

Please outline the major events and activities of your grant project proposal.

**\*\*\*As your first activity, please describe how you will notify parents/stakeholders about the grant and how it will impact your school**.\*\*\*

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| --- | --- |
| **DATE**  | **MAJOR EVENT/ACTIVITY** |
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**F. Budget:**

**\*Please include a detailed list of items to be purchased. Please remember to purchase locally if possible. 3 Bids are required for single items exceeding $2,500.00**

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| --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **COST** |
|       | $0.00 |
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| **Add 6% Idaho Sales Tax on all materials**ordered by personal credit card.**NO TAX - ONLY if you use a SD 271 P.O.** | $0.00 |
| **Shipping and Handling**(Not Subject to Sales Tax) | $0.00 |
| **Total***\*Right click on the dollar amount to the right and* *select ‘Update Field’ to calculate the total amount.* | $ 0.00\* |