

Money for Classrooms: Optimizing Budgets and Utilizing Grants



Standards:

This course aligns to the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Environments and Planning for Instruction.

It also aligns to the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners and Teachers Facilitate Learning.

Need money to meet classroom or school needs?

Every teacher wants to give the best to their students. No one wants a child's education to be hindered by money or resources. This course provides teachers with well-researched money saving and seeking strategies that can be implemented while working within a limited budget.

Teachers will learn how to create effective budgets, write grants, and create fundraising campaigns while connecting with community stakeholders to support educational endeavors in the classroom. Additionally, teachers will be able to involve and inspire students through re-using and recycling resources. This course takes inspiration from teachers in the field who are creative and thrifty in their classrooms.



Official Transcript:
1 Post-Baccalaureate
Credit



100% Online



Quizzes and
Course Action Plan

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Course Outline

SECTION A: Fundraising Basics for Teachers

LESSON 1: Overview of Educational Fundraising

- Possible fundraising goals
- Common concerns while fundraising
- The fundraising process

LESSON 2: Planning and Considerations

- Conducting research into fundraising topics and processes
- Fundraising committees and strategies
- Sources for fundraising
- Budget and timeline

LESSON 3: Preparing a Good Proposal

- Objectives of a proposal
- Types of proposals
- Writing a proposal
- Elements of a proposal

LESSON 4: Implementation and Follow-up

- Key stakeholders
- Promotion and advertising
- Ethics, monitoring, and transparency
- Event review, report, and follow-up

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SECTION B: Grant Writing

LESSON 1: Rationale and Guidelines

- Meaning and relevance of grant writing
- Broad guidelines for the grant writing process
- Brainstorming to identify needs that can be addressed through grants
- Selecting points from an actual proposal

LESSON 2: Understanding your Grant Requirements

- Categorizing needs
- Understanding technological grants
- Thinking through details of different grant categories
- Creating a budget proposal

LESSON 3: Identifying Potential Funders

- Learning to identify productive sources for funds
- A look at professional development grants
- Exploring classroom enrichment and STEM grants
- Survey of grants for arts, students with disabilities, and technology donations

LESSON 4: Securing a Grant

- Focus on writing style and format
- Understanding components of a grant proposal
- When and how to draft a short letter proposal
- Sending the proposal

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SECTION C: Thrifty Classrooms

LESSON 1: A Thrifty Classroom and a Thriving Learning Environment

- The challenges of maintaining the quality of instruction at the school level
- Importance of meeting standards in education
- A look at the critical elements necessary to effectively leverage technology for learning
- The need to change teaching approaches within limited budgets
- The need for financial management and creativity in locating alternative resources

LESSON 2: Making the Most of What You Have

- Learning to make optimal use of available resources
- A look at useful, inexpensive, and ingenious tips for a no-budget dream classroom
- Identifying and implementing projects to redecorate and refurnish the classroom
- Understanding and implementing the 3Rs of minimal waste: recycle, reuse and reduce

LESSON 3: Thrifty Classroom Supplies

- Tips for connecting with parents and community members for donations
- Connect with organizations that give donations or low-cost supplies
- Government agencies, nonprofits, and local businesses that give free student supplies
- Networking with teachers, parents, and alumni
- Identifying online sources for donations and discounts
- Maximizing limited technology to save costs

LESSON 4: Thrifty Learning Projects

- Learning to integrate low-cost field trips and utilize virtual tours
- Incorporating the use of local materials for classroom learning
- The importance of integrating STEM education into schools
- The importance of collaborating with other teachers for supplies and teaching aids
- Finding ways to involve the community in enriching student learning at little to no cost

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Professional Learning Plans