REGIONAL GRANTS

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Idaho STEM Ecosystem

1. INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Idaho STEM Ecosystem Regional Grants

The Idaho STEM Ecosystem (EcosySTEM) Regional Grants aim to increase access and awareness of community-based projects that bring together an inclusive population including youth, families, educators, community members, and industries for shared engagement in, and promotion of, transformative STEM learning and workforce development. Additional expected outcomes of projects funded by the EcosySTEM will include expanding recognition of the EcosySTEM as a leading advocate and resource for STEM education in Idaho, developing a diverse and collaborative network of partners, leveraging collective strengths, and aligning STEM initiatives with Idaho's workforce needs.

Prioritized Funding

The EcosySTEM prioritizes grants to projects that strongly align with statewide and regional strategic goals and objectives. Special emphasis is given to initiatives that foster community-wide engagement and specifically aim to serve underrepresented and underserved populations. Projects featuring a diverse panel of partnerships across different community sectors are particularly encouraged.

To promote broader participation and spur innovation within the community, the EcosySTEM also places a priority on funding first-time applicants. However, this does not exclude prior grant recipients. All eligible applications, whether from new or past grantees, will be considered on their merits and how well they align with the EcosySTEM's objectives. This approach ensures a balanced and inclusive opportunity for all applicants, fostering a wide-ranging impact across the community.

Examples of Successful Projects

Previous projects funded by the EcosySTEM include:

- Local school and community STEM nights
- Materials and equipment for makerspaces and STEM learning spaces, including TMC Labs and Unhitched programs
- Out-of-School STEM programming, events, and activities
- Program staff and guest speaker stipends
- Professional development for educators
- Materials and equipment for STEM competitions

Grant Application Support

EcosySTEM Hub Coordinators are available to assist grant applicants throughout the application process, ensuring that potential applicants have the necessary guidance and resources to successfully submit their proposals. All grant review scoring is completed by an external Hub committee, which allows Hub Coordinators to fully support applicants.

2. APPLICATION PROCESS

Who Can Apply

EcosySTEM Regional Grants are currently funded through support from the Idaho STEM Action Center. All projects must comply with Idaho state regulations and guidelines applicable to public funding. EcosySTEM Regional Grants are designed to support a wide array of partners committed to enhancing and advancing STEM education and workforce development within Idaho.

- Public Educational Institutions: This includes K-12 schools, public preschools, higher education institutions, and vocational training centers that aim to incorporate or expand STEM education in their curriculum.
- Community and Civic Groups: Community organizations, including public libraries, museums, out-of-school programs, and community centers that support STEM-related activities and programs.
- Non-Profit Organizations: Non-profits with a clear focus on STEM education, workforce development, and community engagement in these fields.
- Local Government Agencies: Local or regional government entities whose initiatives are designed to enhance STEM educational outcomes and workforce readiness.

For-profit, private, parochial, or homeschool educational institutions, organizations, educators, and students **are not eligible to apply** per Idaho State Constitution.

How to Apply

The application process for the EcosySTEM Regional Grants aims to be straightforward and accessible. To apply, follow these steps:

1. **Create an Account:** Interested applicants must create an account on the Grant Platform at idahostem.smapply.org. After creating an account, an email verification will be sent through the system. Applicants must verify their account before they can submit a grant application. If an applicant already has an account, they do not need to create a new one for each application. If an applicant is unsure if they already have an account, they can contact the EcosySTEM for help.

2. **Log In and Access Opportunities:** Once logged in to the Grant Platform, applicants will see all available grant opportunities, plus past applications if applicable. Currently, the EcosySTEM offers two grant opportunities:
   a. 2024 – 2025 Regional Grants
   b. 2024 – 2025 STEM Competition Travel Grants (coming soon)

3. **Select a Program:** Applicants should select the program they wish to apply for by clicking "More," reading the directions, and clicking "Start."

4. **Complete the Application:** The 2024 – 2025 Regional Grants application consists of three forms that the applicant must complete before submitting the application. Applicants will only be able to see one form at a time. For reference, Appendix C provides a list of questions asked on each form.
   a. *Eligibility Form:* The EcosySTEM Regional Grants are currently funded through sponsorship from the Idaho STEM Action Center, requiring adherence to specific protocols and procedures. Applicants must fill out the eligibility form to ensure their project qualifies for EcosySTEM funding.
   b. *Applicant Details Form:* This form collects information regarding the administration of the project and grant funds.

c. *Regional Grant Application Form:* This form is the main application questionnaire and will require applicants to upload a detailed grant project budget overview utilizing the provided [budget spreadsheet](#), available in [Appendix D](#).

5. **Submit the Application:** Once all three forms are completed, a submission button will appear. Upon submission, applicants will receive an email verification. If this email is not received, it indicates the application was not properly submitted, which is crucial. Applicants can contact the EcosySTEM team for support if they encounter issues with submission. Applicants can edit their submissions until the grant round deadline. Applications not submitted before the deadline will automatically move to the next round of grant funding.

Application Timeline

Round 1 Grants

The timeline for Round 1 of the 2024 – 2025 Regional Grants is specifically designed for projects occurring between October 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025. The earliest a project can begin is October 1, contingent upon receipt of a fully signed IBE-EcosySTEM Grant Award Agreement (EGAA).

Key dates and deadlines include:

- Application Opening: Monday, July 15, 2024
- Application Closing: Sunday, September 8, 2024
- Review Period: Monday, September 9, 2024 – Monday, September 30, 2024
- Award Notifications: Monday, September 30, 2024
- Grant Award Agreements Due: Monday, October 21, 2024
- Funds Distribution: Tuesday, October 15 - Friday, November 15, 2024
- Funds Expenditure Deadline: Monday, March 31, 2025
- Final Grant Report Due: Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Round 2 Grants

The timeline for Round 2 of the 2024 – 2025 Regional Grants is specifically designed for projects occurring between November 27, 2024 and May 31, 2025. The earliest a project can begin is November 27, contingent upon receipt of a fully signed EGAA.

Key dates and deadlines include:

- Application Opening: Monday, September 9, 2024
- Application Closing: Sunday, November 3, 2024
- Review Period: Monday, November 4 – Monday, November 26, 2024
- Award Notifications: Monday, November 26, 2024
- Grant Award Agreements Due: Monday, December 16, 2024
- Funds Distribution: Friday, December 15 - Wednesday, January 15, 2025
- Funds Expenditure Deadline: Saturday, May 31, 2025
- Final Grant Report Due: Sunday, June 15, 2025

Round 3 Grants

The timeline for Round 3 of the 2024 – 2025 Regional Grants is specifically designed for projects occurring between February 19, 2025 and August 31, 2025. The earliest a project can begin is February 19, contingent upon receipt of a fully signed EGAA.

Key dates and deadlines include:

- Application Opening: Monday, November 4, 2024
- Application Closing: Sunday, January 26, 2025
- Review Period: Monday, January 27, 2025 – Monday, February 18, 2025
- Award Notifications: Monday, February 18, 2025
- Grant Award Agreements Due: Monday, March 10, 2025
- Funds Distribution: Monday, March 3 - Tuesday, April 15, 2025
- Funds Expenditure Deadline: Sunday, August 31, 2025
- Final Grant Report Due: Monday, September 15, 2025

Round 4 Grants: The timeline for Round 4 of the 2024 – 2025 Regional Grants is specifically designed for projects occurring between May 6, 2025 and October 31, 2025. The earliest a project can begin is May 6, contingent upon receipt of a fully signed EGAA.

Key dates and deadlines include:

- Application Opening: Monday, January 27, 2025
- Application Closing: Sunday, April 13, 2025
- Review Period: Monday, April 14, 2025 – Monday, May 5, 2025
- Award Notifications: Monday, May 5, 2025
- Grant Award Agreements Due: Tuesday, May 27, 2025
- Funds Distribution: Thursday, May 15 - Monday, June 16, 2025
- Funds Expenditure Deadline: Friday, October 31, 2025
- Final Grant Report Due: Saturday, November 15, 2025

3. FUNDING AND AWARDS

Grant Amounts

The EcosySTEM Regional Grants offer funding ranging from $500-$5,000 to support local STEM education and workforce development projects across Idaho. Each Regional Hub has funding available to support projects in their respective areas, and all applications are reviewed and approved by grant review committees located within those regions.

Use of Funds

Grant funds must be used to support direct costs associated with STEM education and workforce development projects for public institutions. These funds are strictly allocated for the project's implementation as outlined in the application and subsequent IBE-EcosySTEM Grant Award Agreement (EGAA). If a revision to the budget is needed, submit a request via email to the EcosySTEM for approval, including a justification and clear connection to the overall goals and objectives of the funded project. Any use of funds outside the parameters of the approved budget, without prior approval from the EcosySTEM, may require the funds to be returned.

If cost savings are found, residual funds should be used to expand, support, or sustain the project. All unspent grant funds must be returned to the EcosySTEM within 30 days of the Final Grant Report deadline, accompanied by a detailed explanation of the unspent funds.

Prohitibed Use of Funds

Funding is not available for:
- Technology or other products intended for personal use or used solely by the primary project contact.
- Activities that take place outside of Idaho or involve non-Idaho residents, organizations, or businesses.
- Covering indirect or overhead costs, such as rent, utilities, and shared office supplies.

Award Notification

Applicants will be notified of all award decisions through the Grant Platform. To ensure all communications are received, applicants should add designated EcosySTEM emails to their safe sender list. Successful applicants must follow specific steps, including submitting an Award Agreement Acknowledgement Form and finalizing the EGAA with necessary signatures.

Once the fully signed EGAA is returned, funds will be processed and disbursed based on the provided grant timeline. All grant funds are sent via check to the Administrative Organization listed in the application and mailed from Idaho Business for Education (IBE).

4. REVIEW PROCESS

Overview of Review Process

Each application submitted undergoes a rigorous review process to ensure that all proposals meet the grant funding requirements and adhere to specified timelines. This detailed review process is essential for maintaining the integrity and effectiveness of the grant program. All applicants, regardless of the outcome, will be notified about the results of their grant application.

Evaluation by Regional Grant Review Committees

Applications are thoroughly reviewed and scored by the project's corresponding regional grant review committees. Hub Coordinators will work closely with the grant review team and their respective steering committees to make informed and balanced final funding decisions. This collaborative approach helps align grant awards with strategic goals and specific needs of each region.

Grant Rubric

To understand the criteria used during the evaluation process, applicants are encouraged to review the Grant Rubric before and during the application process. This rubric provides detailed insights into how applications are scored and what aspects are most critical for success. Please see the attached Appendix E for the full rubric.

5. REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Final Grant Report

Grant recipients are required to submit a comprehensive Final Grant Report by the designated deadline, as outlined above in the Application Process section. This report will be available to applicants on the Grant Platform once the EGAA has been signed and returned. The final report should detail the project's activities, outcomes, total expenditures, and any deviations from the approved budget. The final report will also have space to upload photos of the project that may be used in EcosySTEM promotions. EcosySTEM staff are available to assist grantees with the reporting process. Please see the attached Appendix F for the full Final Grant Report form.

Site Visits and Project Spotlights

While not required, Hub Coordinators are available and eager to visit grant recipients during their projects. Awardees can work directly with their Hub Coordinator to schedule such visits. Additionally, Hub Coordinators may reach out to awardees for opportunities to spotlight the project or organization in various communications and promotional activities.

Promotional Requirements

Awardees are required to acknowledge and promote the EcosySTEM as a partner and source of funding in all promotional activities related to the funded project. This includes press releases, media coverage, social media posts, marketing materials, and event content. Highlighting the support from the EcosySTEM helps to increase awareness of the available resources and successes achieved through these grants. Additionally, the EGAA may stipulate additional promotional requirements, depending on the source of the funding for the grant.
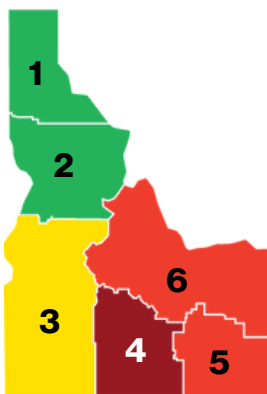
6. CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Coordinator

For help with the grant platform, grant processes, reporting requirements, and general support.

Trisha Mick: trisha@idahostem.org

Hub Coordinators

For help with grant writing and project support.

STEM INNC Regional Hub Coordinator, *regions 1, 2:*
  Erin Lanigan: erin@idahostem.org

SWISH Regional Hub Coordinator, *region 3:*
  ReBekha Lulu: rebekha@idahostem.org

ISEE STEM Regional Hub Coordinator, *region 4:*
  Sonya Haines: sonya@idahostem.org

ISEE STEM Regional Hub Coordinator, *regions 5, 6:*
  Ashley Schaffner: ashley@idahostem.org

Financial Officer

For help with the award agreement and funding questions.

Anne-Marie Henning: finance@idahostem.org

7. APPENDICES

A. GLOSSARY

Administrative Organization-

The entity responsible for overseeing the administrative and operational aspects of the grant, including managing and distributing grant funds. (District office, Main Branch, etc.)

Authorized Signatory-

The individual authorized to sign documents on behalf of the organization and ensure the Primary Organization adheres to all the requirements outlined in this agreement. In the event that the Primary Grant and Project Contacts and/or Final Report Contact are unable to fulfil their obligations, the Authorized Signatory will assume responsibility or delegate another individual to fulfill the requirements and communicate any changes to the EcosySTEM.

Final Report Contact-

The individual responsible for compiling and submitting the Final Grant Report at the conclusion of the grant period.

IBE-EcosySTEM Award Agreement-

Also known as EGAA, is the formal contract between the grant awardee and the EcosySTEM that outlines all the terms and conditions of the grant award.

Idaho Business for Education-

Also known as IBE, is the parent organization for the EcosySTEM. IBE is a group of nearly 250 business leaders from across the state who are committed to transforming Idaho's Education system. IBE members are devoted to creating a highly educated and skilled workforce that is able to strengthen the business climate and fuel a prosperous Idaho economy.

Idaho STEM Action Center-

Also known as STEM AC, is the founding member of the EcosySTEM. STEM AC provides coordination for statewide STEM education and activities to enhance opportunities for educators, students, communities, and employers in their work to build a competitive Idaho workforce and economy through STEM and computer science education.

A. GLOSSARY

Idaho STEM Ecosystem-

Also known as EcosySTEM, is a division of IBE. The EcosySTEM engages partners to foster STEM learning experiences and expand career pathways in every Idaho community. The EcosySTEM utilizes a regional hub structure to provide localized support with expert Hub Coordinators and regional leadership committees. The three regional hubs are:

STEM INNC: Idaho North & North Central EcosySTEM Regional Hub
SWISH: SouthWest Idaho STEM Hub Regional Hub
ISEE STEM: Idaho South & East EcosySTEM Regional Hub

Primary Grant Contact-

The individual designated by the Authorized Signatory to serve as the main point of contact for the EcosySTEM on all grant-related communications regarding the application, award agreement, and reporting requirements.

Primary Organization-

The main entity responsible for the execution and management of the grant-funded project. This organization ensures compliance with grant requirements, maintains proper documentation, and is accountable for meeting the project's objectives and delivering outcomes as outlined in the grant proposal. (School, library branch, etc.)

Primary Project Contact-

The individual responsible for leading and implementing the project as outlined in the grant proposal. This person will serve as the main liaison for the Regional Hub Coordinators, overseeing project activities, ensuring adherence to the project objectives and timeline, and monitoring progress toward achieving project goals.

Regional Hub Coordinators-

Also known as Hub Coordinators, are EcosySTEM staff who provide localized support and connection for their regions across Idaho.

B. TIMELINE

	2024						2025				
	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
Round 1	Application Period July 15 – September 8		Review Period September 9 –30								
			Award Notification September 30								
Round 2			Application Period September 9 - November 3		Review Period November 3 - 26						
					Award Notifications November 26						
Round 3					Application Period November 4 - January 26		Review Period January 27 – February 18				
								Award Notification Feburary 18			
Round 4								Application Period January 27 - April 13		Review Period April 14 - May 5	
											Award Notification May 5
STEM Competition Travel Grants			Applications open- reviewed on a rolling basis September 9								

C. APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Eligibility Form

Q1. This funding request is for a project supporting Idaho populations and takes place within the State of Idaho.

    True/False

Q2. This funding request is tied to a STEM education and/or STEM workforce development initiative.

    True/False

Q3. This funding request is not currently being supported by a grant/program from the Idaho STEM Action Center.

    True/False

Q4. This funding request will not be used to primarily support homeschool populations.

    True/False

Q5. This funding request will not be used to primarily support parochial students or schools.

    True/False

Q6. This funding request does not include any indirect/overhead costs (rent, utilities, employee fringe benefits, etc.)

   True/False

Applicant Details Form

Q1. Administrative organization

Q2. Administrative organization address

Q3. Administrative organization address 2

Q4. Administrative organization city/town

Q5. Administrative organization state

Q6. Administrative organization zip code

Q7. Primary organization

Q8. Primary organization address

Q9. Primary organization address 2

Q10. Primary organization city/town

Q11. Primary organization state

Q12. Primary organization zip code

Q13. Name (First Last) of person completing this form

Q14. Email of person completing this form

Q15. Phone number of person completing this form

Q16. Name (First Last) of person implementing the project

Q17. Email of person implementing the project

Q18. Phone number of person implementing the project

Q19. Name (First Last) of person authorized to sign agreement

Q20. Email of person authorized to sign agreement

Q21. Phone number of person authorized to sign agreement

Q22. Name (First Last) of person responsible for reporting requirements

Q22. Email of person responsible for reporting requirements

Q23. Phone number of person responsible for reporting requirements

Regional Grant Application Form

Q1. Hub and Regional Impacts

Select the region(s) impacted through this project. Select all that apply. Please reference the map below when selecting the appropriate region(s).

- Region 1 (STEM INNC)
- Region 2 (STEM INNC)
- Region 3 (SWISH)
- Region 4 (ISEE STEM)
- Region 5 (ISEE STEM)
- Region 6 (ISEE STEM)
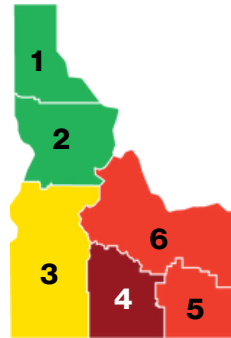
Q2. Amount Requested

What is the full amount requested, in US dollars? Regional Grants may range from $500-$5,000.

Q3. Budget

Please upload the project budget using the provided budget template.

Q4. Project Overview *(Maximum 350 characters)*

Please provide a brief overview of the project and funding request.

Q5. Project Description

Please describe the overall program or project for which you are requesting the grant. Be as specific and detailed as possible. To ensure you include relevant details, please refer to the Review Rubric.

Q6. Continuation of Funding *(optional)*

If this request is a continuation of a project the EcosySTEM has previously funded, please describe how your current request:

- Expands Impact: how will this new funding enhance or broaden the scope of your project.
- Increase Access: how will additional support make your project more accessible to a wider audience or new participants.
- Diversifies the Request: outline any new components, methodologies, or target groups included in this application that were not part of the previous request.

If this is not a continuation of a previously funded project, you may skip this question.

Q7. Goals and Objectives

What are the specific, measurable goals and objectives of this project, and how do they align with the EcosySTEM's commitment to fostering transformative STEM learning experiences and expanding career pathways in Idaho communities.

Q8. Outcomes, Evaluation, and Metrics

How will the project's impact be measured? Please provide details on metrics, data collection methods, and a timeline for evaluating and assessing the project's success. How will the findings be used to inform decisions and improve future projects?

Q9. Impacts

Please give us an estimate of how many students, educators (including formal and informal), and community members will be directly and indirectly impacted through this project. *If none, enter zero.*

	Students	Educators	Community Members
Directly Impacted			
Indirectly Impacted			

Q10. Impact Commentary

Please provide additional information about how you arrived at the numbers above.

Q11. Inclusion Strategy

What specific methods and strategies will be used to ensure wide inclusion in this project? Provide methods and strategies to specifically reach underrepresented, underserved, and/or non-traditional populations in STEM. Please include relevant demographic information in your response, such as age groups, grade levels, geographic location, socioeconomic status, and any other pertinent characteristics, while avoiding any protected or sensitive personal information.

Q12. Partnerships

How are you partnering with other organizations or groups to make this project successful and enhance outcomes? This may include other sponsors, volunteers, mentors, industry experts, and/or parents/families, etc. If you have additional financial partners, make sure to include their information in your budget spreadsheet.

Q13. Sustainability

What strategies will be used to ensure the project is sustainable? This includes how the project's benefits will continue beyond the grant period, how it may be integrated into existing projects, and/or how the project may scale or be replicated, etc.

Q14. STEM Career Awareness

How does this program incorporate and expose students to age-appropriate STEM career awareness and/or workforce development opportunities?

Q15. Materials and Resources

Provide an overview of materials and resources requested. Include how these align with the project's objectives and if they have the potential to benefit an organization or community for an extended period.

Q16. Timeline

Please describe the timeline of this project, including proposed start date, implementation timeline, end date, evaluation, and assessment times, as applicable.

D. BUDGET SPREADSHEET

Click here to download the fillable budget spreadsheet.

Program/Project Expenses

Expenses (Personnel)	Grant Funds Requested	Total Projected Costs	Budget Narrative - justification, evidence of need, links if applicable
Total	$ -	$0	

Expenses (Resources and Materials)	Grant Funds Requested	Total Projected Costs	Budget Narrative - justification, evidence of need, links if applicable
Total	$ -	$ -	

Other	Grant Funds Requested	Total Projected Costs	Budget Narrative - justification, evidence of need, links if applicable
Total	$ -	$ -	

TOTAL GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED	$ -
Total Program Cost	$0

Additional Program/Project Funding

Other Potential Funding Source/Partners	Projected Amount	Committed Amount	Notes or additional details

E. REVIEW RUBRIC

Project Goals and Objectives: (x2)

Question: *What are the specific, measurable goals and objectives of this project, and how do they align with the EcosySTEM's commitment to fostering transformative STEM learning experiences and expanding career pathways in Idaho communities?*

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The project's goals and objectives are exceptionally clear and specific. The purpose and intended objectives demonstrate a deep understanding of STEM awareness. Includes exceptionally comprehensive and innovative measurable indicators. Goals and objectives exhibit a strong alignment with the EcosySTEM's commitment and connection to the broader initiative is robust and innovative.	The project's goals and objectives are clear and specific. The purpose and intended objectives of the project are well-defined. Includes measurable indicators. Goals and objectives demonstrate a reasonable alignment with the EcosySTEM's commitment and connection to the broader initiative is evident.	The project's goals and objectives lack clarity and specificity. The purpose and intended objectives of the project are not well-defined. Does not include measurable indicators. Goals and objectives do not demonstrate a clear alignment with the EcosySTEM's commitment and connection to the broader initiative is weak or absent.	No project goals or objectives provided.

Outcomes, Evaluation, and Metrics (x2)

Question: *How will the project's impact be measured? Please provide details on metrics, data collection methods, and a timeline for evaluating and assessing the project's success. How will the findings be used to inform decisions and improve the project?*

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The application presents an exceptionally clear, detailed, and comprehensive plan for measuring the project's impact. The proposed metrics are highly relevant to the project's objectives and are well-defined. The data collection methods are innovative and likely to yield high-quality data about the project impact. The timeline for evaluating and assessing the project's success is well-structured and includes key-milestones. The application describes a robust plan for how the findings will be used to inform decisions and improve the project in a way that is forward-thinking and demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement.	The application presents a clear plan for measuring the project's impact. The proposed metrics are relevant to the project's objectives and are reasonably defined. The data collection methods are likely to yield meaningful information about project impact. The timeline for evaluating and assessing the project's success is reasonable and includes key milestones. The application describes a clear plan for how the findings will be used to inform decisions and improve the project.	The application lacks a clear or detailed plan for measuring the project's impact. The proposed metrics do not effectively measure the project's objectives, or are vague and uninformative. The data collection methods are poorly defined or inadequate for gathering meaningful information about the project impact. The timeline for evaluating and assessing the project's success is unclear or unreasonably long and lacks key milestones. The application does not specify how the findings will be used to inform decisions or improve the project, or is vague or non-existent.	No evaluation or metrics provided.

Inclusion Strategy (x1)

Question: *What specific methods and strategies will be used to ensure wide inclusion in the project? Provide methods and strategies to specifically reach underrepresented, underserved, and/or non-traditional populations in STEM.*

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The application presents an exceptionally clear, detailed, and comprehensive plan for ensuring wide inclusion in the project; demonstrates a deep commitment. The application provides specific and actionable strategies or methods that are highly relevant and address unique needs and barriers faced by underrepresented, underserved, or non-traditional populations in STEM, demonstrating a thoughtful and innovative approach.	The application presents a clear and detailed plan for ensuring wide inclusion in the project. The application provides specific and actionable strategies or methods that address specific needs and barriers faced by underrepresented, underserved, or non-traditional populations in STEM, demonstrating a thoughtful approach.	The application lacks a clear or detailed plan for ensuring wide inclusion in the project. The application's proposed strategies or methods do not effectively address the specific needs and barriers faced by underrepresented, underserved, or non-traditional populations in STEM, or are unreasonable or unactionable.	No inclusion strategies provided.

Partnerships (x1)

Question: *How are you partnering with other organizations or groups to make this project successful and enhance outcomes? This may include other sponsors, volunteers, mentors, industry experts, and parents/families, etc.*

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The application presents an exceptionally clear, detailed, and comprehensive plan for partnering with other organizations or groups, showcasing a deep commitment to leveraging partnerships that enhance the project's success and outcomes. Proposed partnerships are highly relevant to the project's goals and objectives and relevance is clear and compelling. Provides highly specific and actionable details about how the partnerships will be established and maintained, demonstrating a sophisticated approach. The plan includes a diverse range of partners, demonstrating a comprehensive and creative approach to project enhancement.	The application presents a clear and detailed plan for partnering with other organizations or groups to enhance the project's success and outcomes. Proposed partnerships are relevant to the project's goals and objectives and relevance is reasonably explained. Provides specific details about how the partnerships will be established and maintained, demonstrating a thoughtful approach. The plan includes a diverse range of partners, reflecting a comprehensive approach to project enhancement.	The application lacks a clear and detailed plan for partnering with other organizations or groups. If partnerships are proposed, they do not appear relevant to the project's goals and objectives, or their relevance is not explained. If partnerships are proposed, the application does not detail how partnerships will be established or maintained. If partnerships are proposed, the plan relies on a single type of partner or does not consider a diverse range of partners.	No partnerships provided.

Sustainability (x1)

Question: *What strategies will be used to ensure the project is sustainable? This includes how the project's benefits will continue beyond the grant period, how it may integrate into existing projects, and/or how the project may scale or replicate, etc.*

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The application presents an exceptionally clear, detailed, and comprehensive plan ensuring the project's sustainability, showcasing a commitment to long-term success. Strategies are well defined, innovative, and create opportunity for maximum sustained impact.	The application presents a clear and detailed plan for ensuring the project's sustainability, with well-defined strategies that ensure a thoughtful approach.	The application lacks a clear and detailed plan for ensuring the project's sustainability. If provided, strategies are ill-defined or lack a thoughtful and holistic approach.	No sustainability plan provided.

STEM Career and Awareness (x.5)

Question: *How does this project incorporate age appropriate STEM career awareness and/or workforce development.*

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The application presents an exceptionally clear, detailed, and comprehensive approach for incorporating age-appropriate STEM career awareness and workforce development, demonstrating a deep commitment to preparing participants for future STEM careers. Strategies are well defined and relevant to the project's goals and objectives as well as the future needs of the local workforce. The application outlines a visionary plan for age-appropriate workforce development, including but not limited to skill-building and career preparation.	The application presents a clear and detailed approach for incorporating age-appropriate STEM career awareness and workforce development. Strategies are well defined and relevant to the project's goals and objectives as well as future needs of the workforce. The application outlines a plan for age-appropriate workforce development, including but not limited to skill-building and career preparation.	The application lacks a clear and detailed approach for incorporating age-appropriate STEM career awareness and workforce development. If provided, strategies are ill-defined or irrelevant to the project's goals and objectives and disconnected from future needs of the workforce.	No STEM career awareness or workforce development integration provided.

Materials and Resources (x.5)

Question: *Provide an overview of materials and resources requested. Include how these align with the project's objectives and if they have the potential to benefit an organization or community for an extended period. Ensure that these align with what was submitted in the budget template.* ⬚

Exceeds Criteria (3)	Meets Criteria (2)	Does Not Meet Criteria (1)	Did Not Answer (0)
The application presents an exceptionally clear, detailed, and comprehensive overview of the requested materials and resources, including their purpose and relevance to the project. Requested materials and resources align exceptionally well with the project's objectives, serving as integral components that directly support the intended goals and are consistent with what was submitted in the budget template. The application not only explains how the requested materials and resources have the potential to benefit the organization or community for an extended period but also provides innovative ideas or strategies to maximize their long-term impact.	The application presents a clear and detailed overview of the requested materials and resources, including their purpose and relevance to the project. Requested materials and resources align reasonably well with the project's goals and objectives and are consistent with what was submitted in the budget template. The application explains how the requested materials and resources have the potential to benefit the organization or community for an extended period, demonstrating a reasonable consideration of sustainability.	The application lacks a clear and detailed overview of the requested materials and resources. Requested materials do not appear to align well with the project's goals and objectives, or are inconsistent with what was submitted in the budget template. If provided, the application does not convincingly demonstrate how the requested materials and resources have the potential to benefit the organization or community for an extended period.	No materials or resources overview or alignment provided.

F. FINAL GRANT REPORT

Final Report Form

Q1. Amount Expended.

What was the full amount expended?

Q2. Expense Deviations

Did the project expenses deviate more than 20% from the original proposed budget? If yes, please explain why the deviations were necessary, how you adjusted the funding, and the impact of the project.

Q3. Goals and Objectives

Did the project meet it's specific, measurable goals and objectives outlined in the initial proposal? What, if any, necessary changes or adjustments were made? Please explain why the changes were necessary, how you adjusted the goals and objectives, and the impact on the project or recipients.

Q4. Newly Discovered Best Practices

What, if any, newly discovered best practices were identified during the project implementation? How can these best practices contribute to future STEM education and workforce development initiatives?

Q5. Outcomes, Evaluations, and Metrics

Please list key findings from any evaluations or metrics collected during the project. How did these findings inform decisions and improve the project during implementation?

Q6. Inclusion

How did this project ensure wide inclusion in the program or specifically reach underrepresented, underserved, and/or non-traditional populations in STEM?

Q7. Partnerships

List and describe the partnerships used during the project. Identify which, if any, were newly established partners from this project. How did these partnerships contribute to the success of this project? Discuss any lasting effects or outcomes resulting from the partnerships (ex: new ideas generated, ongoing collaborative work, etc.)

Q8. Impacts

Provide the number of students, educators (including formal and informal), and community members directly and indirectly impacted through this project. *If none, enter zero.*

	Students	Educators	Community Members
Directly Impacted			
Indirectly Impacted			

Q9. Continued Impacts

What, if any, were the lasting impacts of this project? How have the project's benefits continued beyond the grant period?

Q10. Testimonials and Quotes

Please share testimonials and quotes from the project recipients, beneficiaries, or project staff, highlighting any impactful stories that showcase the success of this project. These testimonials and quotes may be used for future EcosySTEM Grant promotions.

Q11. Grant Project Photos *(Optional, maximum 10 uploads)*

If you have any photos from the project that you would like to share, and have permission to share, please upload them here or email them to Trisha Mick, Program Coordinator, at trisha@idahostem.org.

Q12. Additional Comments *(Optional)*

Provide any additional comments or insights not covered in the above questions.

REGIONAL GRANTS