

Growing Capacity Mini-Grant Program

June 2026 Call for Proposals



Introduction

The WV Career Collaborative is pleased to offer a limited number of competitive grants for individuals from educational institutions in West Virginia for the purpose of supporting initiatives to build or implement new or revised curricula that incorporate new or novel connections with regional STEM industries.

Eligibility

Any educator/faculty member from a K-12 or post-secondary institution is eligible to apply. Only one proposal may be submitted per person. All proposals must have approval from appropriate supervisors (e.g., principals, chairs, and/or deans). Eligible requests may include, but are not limited to: stipends for curriculum development, equipment, lab upgrades, classroom upgrades, supplies, software, professional development, books, special project/program support, institutional match required for an external grant (where allowable), and more. Priority will be given to proposals that arise from interactions through activities sponsored by this ARC POWER grant; however, full consideration will be given to proposals resulting in curriculum changes or additions which aim to enhance student engagement with regional STEM industries.

Award Period of Performance

October 1st, 2026 – December 31st, 2026

Funding Range

The minimum award amount is \$500, and the maximum award amount is \$2,000. A total of \$6,000 is anticipated to be awarded. If a grant is received, funds are dispersed as a reimbursement.

Special Budget Considerations

All equipment and supplies will be purchased by Fairmont State and provided to the awardee, following all procurement guidelines. Stipends will be awarded after the work has been completed and upon receipt of sufficient evidence that the work was accomplished. This evidence (deliverable) may be a letter from a supervisor or proof that a curriculum proposal was submitted.

Deadline and Submission Criteria

To be considered for funding, proposals must be received by August 28th, 2026. Applicants must fill out the required Google Form (See QR Code at the end of this document). Any questions can be sent to wvcareercollab@gmail.com.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by senior personnel on the ARC POWER Grant mentioned above and evaluated on the following criteria:

- Potential to create sustainable connections between regional STEM industries and students in new or existing STEM curricula.

- Likelihood of lasting curriculum changes or additions (e.g., new courses or adapted curricula based on interactions with industry)
- Significance of need in home institution (i.e., are there other lines of funding available to you for this project).
- Innovation and creativity.
- Number of students impacted and potential for scaling to additional contexts.
- Budget and cost effectiveness.
- Proximity to the grant service area and the level of financial distress according to ARC (2024)
 - Counties at Distressed Level in Service Area: Barbour, Braxton, Calhoun, Clay, Nicholas, Upshur, Wetzel, Wirt
 - Counties at At-Risk Level in Service Area: Gilmer, Lewis
 - Other Counties in Service Area: Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Taylor

Proposal Format

The proposal narrative should not exceed four (4) pages and should include the following

- Abstract/Executive Summary
- Statement of Need
- Project Description (including proposed timeline)
- Budget (line item and budget justification narrative)
- Statement of Outcome, Impact, and/or Evaluation.

Reporting Requirements

If awarded, a final report that details how the funds were spent, how goals/objectives were met, any obstacles or issues experienced during implementation, and the overall impact of the grant must be submitted no later than January 29th, 2027. Any unspent funds will be returned to the awarding institution.

For more information about the full breadth of grant activities and other ways to get involved, please visit the following website, where you can also sign up for project newsletters:

[WV Career Collaborative: Building Connections, Building Workforce: Home](#)



WVCC Website



Curriculum Mini-Grant Application

WV Career Collaborative is funded by the ARC POWER Grant #PW-21904-IM, "Building Connections to Grow Capacity: Breaking down Regional Barriers in the STEM Workforce Pipeline."