



19th Annual
Kelly Lane Earth and Space Science Grant (2025)
for South Dakota Science and Math Teachers
(This announcement released on December 9, 2024)

The South Dakota Space Grant Consortium (SDSGC) <https://sd.spacegrant.org> invites applications from South Dakota teachers for the 19th annual Kelly Lane Earth and Space Science Grant. The award seeks to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in the state through the support of innovative programs in pre-college education.

\$8,000 available in 2025 for a single award. Applications due by **January 16, 2025**

About the Award

The Kelly Lane Earth and Space Grant was established in 2006 in honor of Kelly Lane, who retired from teaching science at Douglas Middle School. Through his pioneering efforts in the use of geospatial technology, Kelly helped to inspire countless students and fellow teachers and to advance the use of technology to foster better comprehension of the physical and biological sciences.

Purpose

The purpose of the award is to recognize and support outstanding teachers and innovative educational programs at the pre-college level. The SDSGC believes that early engagement of students in STEM disciplines will yield long-term benefits to the state including a strengthened higher education system and a more diverse technological workforce. The application must demonstrate how the proposed program or activity will support these long-term goals.

Scope of program

Funds may be used for supplies or travel; to attend or present workshops; to develop new curriculum, media, or programs; or any other activity consistent with the goal of strengthening STEM education. Funds may not, however, be used to supplement or replace teacher salary. **When supplies are purchased, they must be purchased directly by SDSGC through the grant and shipped/delivered to the teacher's school. To facilitate ordering, the teacher must supply the ordering information to SDSGC including specific details on the supplies they wish to order (e.g., vendor, item numbers, price, etc).** Supplies purchased through the grant become the property of the teacher's school. **No computer or clothing purchases** are allowed.

Eligibility

Grant applications are encouraged from any science or math teacher at a public, private, or tribal K-12 school in South Dakota. The SDSGC recognizes that STEM education encompasses a broad spectrum of physical and biological sciences, mathematics, and related fields. Teachers from any STEM-related field are eligible. All persons receiving NASA Space Grant funds under the Kelly Lane Earth & Space Science Grant must be U.S. citizens.

Selection criteria

Grant applications will be evaluated by the 10-member SDSGC Management Team.

Important review criteria include:

1. Does the applicant offer a clear plan to inspire and engage students in STEM?
2. How will the activity be sustained beyond the grant period?
3. Beyond the impact on the grantee, what are the broader impacts on students, other teachers, or administrators?

Applicants may wish to consult NASA's *Strategy for STEM Engagement* for alignment with the Agency's objectives:

- <https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/nasa-strategy-for-stem-2020-23-508.pdf>

In the end, the SDSGC is most interested in innovative, grassroots ideas from teachers in South Dakota classrooms. Preference will be given to applications focusing on topics pertaining to space science, earth science, and/or the use geospatial technology, as well as to any applicants proposing to participate in the Texas Space Grant Consortium's LiftOff Summer Institute <<https://www.csr.utexas.edu/liftoff/>> and teacher professional development training at NASA Johnson Space Center.

Application procedure

To apply for the grant, please refer to the following directions. The application must include:

1. Name, contact information, school, and grade levels and classes taught.
2. How the teacher plans to use the funds (maximum 2 single-spaced 12-font pages), which includes:
 - Title and description of proposed program or activity
 - Clear, measurable objectives with associated metrics that will be used to evaluate the success of the project and reported to the SDSGC
 - Quantitative impact of activity (e.g., estimated number of participants/ students reached in first year)
 - Qualitative impact of activity (long-term benefit to STEM education)
 - Sustainability of activity
 - Time period during which funds will be used (no longer than 1 year from grant award)
3. Brief biographical sketch emphasizing past teaching accomplishments (maximum 1 additional page).
4. Budget page (no special form is required, but clear, specific breakdown of costs will help reviewers evaluate proposal).
 - Maximum request \$8,000
 - Cost estimates for domestic travel, supplies, workshops, services (no computer or clothing purchases allowed)
 - If total project cost exceeds the amount requested, indicate the amounts and sources of other funds, and whether the success of the project depends on these other sources
 - Any "in-kind" or cash match as cost-sharing is not a requirement for selection, but is welcome if it can be provided.

- Funds may not be used to supplement or replace teacher salary
 - No F&A (overhead or indirect) costs are allowed
5. Name and statement of support from school administrator (maximum 50 words) indicating approval of project and budget.

Distribution of awards

Supplies are to be ordered directly by SDSGC and shipped to the grantee as described on page 1 under “Scope of program”. Other approved expenses (consistent with the budget and objectives) will be reimbursed to the teacher or his/her school (when necessary) upon submittal of invoices including “proof-of-purchase” receipts. A completed W-9 form supplied by SDSM&T from the teacher or school will be required prior to reimbursement.

Application submission and deadline

Applications must be received as a **single electronic file** (Word or PDF format preferred) via email by **January 16, 2025** to:

Dr. Edward Duke, Director, SDSGC
Email: Edward.Duke@sdsmt.edu

Decision and announcement

We anticipate notifying grant winner(s) and all other applicants by February 3, 2025 in time to formally announce the winners at the SD STEM Ed teacher’s conference in Huron, SD. Information on the winning projects will be posted shortly thereafter at: <https://sdspacegrant.sdsmt.edu/KellyLaneTeacherGrant.htm>

Questions?

Questions can be directed to Dr. Ed Duke, Director, SD Space Grant Consortium
Phone: 605-394-2388. Email: Edward.Duke@sdsmt.edu

Reporting, tracking, and evaluation

The grantee must provide a brief report on the results of the first year of the project no later than January 9, 2026, to SDSU’s Dr. Todd Letcher at the email address below. *(Note: SDSGC’s lead institution will have moved from SDSM&T to SDSU by that time.)* Submission via email is preferred. The report should summarize quantitative (including numbers and ages of students reached to date) and qualitative outcomes of the project. SDSGC’s Program Evaluator, Steckelberg Consulting, LLC, will provide a brief post-project evaluation survey that must be completed by the grantee and returned.

Dr. Todd Letcher, Director
South Dakota Space Grant Consortium
South Dakota State University

Email: todd.letcher@sdstate.edu