

## 2025-2026 WLC Educator Innovation Micro Grants

### Overview

To foster a network-wide culture of innovation and risk-taking, we are piloting a series of individual innovation micro grants. Educators can apply for funding up to \$2,500 to support ideas that strengthen the student experience in their classroom or throughout their building.

The WLC's FY26 Budget Narrative has allocated up to \$150,000 in funding support with a **priority** on ideas that focus:

- Increasing joy and student engagement
- Fostering student belonging and community
- Engaging parents and families in the academic experience
- Designing student centered learning experiences that infuse areas such as, but not limited to *STEM, the arts, SEL, problem based learning, AI etc.*

### Eligibility

Educators serving in roles in WLC schools, including teachers, paraprofessionals are eligible to apply. Employment will be verified. WLC will review completed applications and prioritize those applicants in roles with ideas that strengthen the student experience and in roles with the ability to directly influence those outcomes.

Applications will be accepted between September 16 - Nov 15th with two selection windows.

- Application Window 1: September 16 - October 15, notifications by October 30, 2025
  - Open to current fellows in the Teacher Leadership Design Fellowship (TLDF) and Teacher Innovation Lab (TIL)
- Application Window 2: October 15 - November 15, notifications by November 30, 2025
  - Open to all educators serving in WLC schools

### Process

- Review of applications will begin immediately with decisions to be communicated by each window notification date.
- The first step is to submit the application sharing more about your innovation idea. If your idea is selected, more details will be requested as the second and final step in the application process.

- Approved applicants will be notified by email. Submission of an application does not guarantee approval.
- Payments will be made directly to the applicant. An IRS 1099 form will be issued and your responsibility to report that income on your tax return.
- Ideas must be implemented between January and May of 2026. A 1 page narrative of outcomes and supplemental artifacts demonstrating results must be submitted following the implementation of piloting your idea.
- Winners will be announced and celebrated publicly and expected to share their learning. Consideration of an Educator Innovation award announced at the annual WLC symposium.

### **Application**

The application can be accessed [here](#) and should not take more than 30 minutes to complete.

### **Questions**

Please reach out to [Carly@wlc-de.org](mailto:Carly@wlc-de.org) with additional questions.