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Indiana micro-grant program poised to award thousands of dollars in support of STEM-focused youth and adult manufacturing initiatives

RFPs now being accepted for \$2,000 grants for education, industry and community-based organizations

The [Indiana Manufacturing Competitiveness Center](#) (IN-MaC) has launched its 2021-2022 Micro-Grant Program, an initiative that awards \$2,000 grants to educators (including K-12 and college), industry and community-based organizations to implement local STEM programming. The current IN-MaC Micro-Grant Program cycle accepts applications until June 1, 2022. Applications and information are available online [here](#).

Since the IN-MaC program began in 2018, 225 grants have been awarded in 82 counties across Indiana. The program aims to support projects focused on exposing youth to manufacturing through:

- Hands-on experiences and camps
- Virtual experience with or exposure to industry careers
- STEM equipment and curriculum
- STEM-related experiences

According to Lisa Deck, program manager of education and workforce at IN-MaC, these grants can be used for a wide variety of STEM initiatives, including camps, virtual events, videos and transportation – and she would like to see more Indiana counties take advantage of the grants.

“We are always looking for new organizations to enter this grant program,” said Deck.

At a recent IN-MaC Micro-Grant Program summit, educators and community organizers summed up the impact of the grants:

“My students do not have access to STEM through their home lives and I will be able to give them an opportunity to experience STEM resources in our school.”

“The opportunities afforded as a result of Purdue IN-MaC micro-grants provide students with knowledge to propel them into high-tech careers in the future.”

Grant recipients are expected to attend an annual networking event and provide updates throughout the grant process. The IN-MaC Micro-Grant Program does not fund ongoing organizational support, such as salaries, or political campaigns.

About IN-MaC

IN-MaC provides programs and services to enhance the talents and capabilities of Indiana's present and future workforce by facilitating connections between educators and industry to catalyze the formation of near-term and long-term skills in a highly accessible manner across Indiana. IN-MaC supports a variety of STEM-type, skilled trades, degree (associates and undergraduate) and certificate programs. IN-MaC leverages its resources, networks and partnerships with industry, local communities, educators and interested stakeholders to provide a variety of formal courses and informal activities that embolden pathways to meet the talent needs of the present and future manufacturing workforce.

