

Triangle Community Foundation is now accepting proposals for the 2011-2012 cycle of the Biogen Idec Foundation Micro-Grants in Science Education Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide small, one-time grants to schools and nonprofit organizations in the Triangle region to support science education programs and projects that might otherwise go unfunded. Grants will range from \$250 to \$2,500, and proposals in the lower and middle parts of the range are encouraged. Preference will be given to projects that focus on the life sciences. Projects must expand and enhance science education at the elementary, middle or high-school levels.

IMPORTANT DATES Proposals due October 26, 2011, Funding decisions by November 17, Funding available December 15

BASIC ELIGIBILITY Applicant must be a school or 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving students in grades K-12 in the Triangle region.

- Applications from public, charter, magnet, and private schools will be accepted.
- For schools, elementary schools, middle schools and high schools are eligible to apply.
- Schools are limited to one application submitted per school and required to have an authorized signature from the head of the school. More than one application received from a school will disqualify all applications from that school.
- Nonprofits are limited to one application and must provide proof of 501(c)3 status.
- The Triangle region is defined for this program as Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake, and Warren counties. Preference may be given to applicants in Wake, Durham, Orange, and Chatham.

FUNDING FOCUS Successful applications will focus on one or more of the following goals:

- Promote science literacy among students
- Help develop effective science education teachers and leaders
- Encourage underserved youth with potential to enter science fields

TIMEFRAME Request must be for projects occurring December 15, 2011 – September 30, 2012

EXAMPLES Representative projects include, but are not limited to:

- Purchase of laboratory materials for use in hands-on experiments
- Fee to cover the stipend for an expert to speak to a science class
- Purchase of books, workbooks, lab manuals, etc. not covered by instructional budget
- Transportation or admission fees for students to participate in science education field trips to museums, botanical gardens, zoological gardens
- Materials or other needs of after-school or summer science programs

REVIEW CRITERIA Eligible proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Clear goals and measurable outcomes, consistent with funding focus
- Complement or enhance existing efforts at applicant school or nonprofit
- Positive impact on a significant number of youth from a wide variety of backgrounds, especially underserved populations
- Preference will be given to projects in the life sciences.

HOW TO APPLY Applications and information for the Biogen Idec Foundation Micro-Grants in Science Education Fund are available at www.trianglecf.org. Questions from applicants should be directed to Sandra Rodríguez at Triangle Community Foundation at (919) 474-8370 ext. 127 or biogenidecgrants@trianglecf.org. Organizations wishing to submit a proposal must use the online application form provided by Triangle Community Foundation. To apply, please complete the form and email it as an attachment to biogenidecgrants@trianglecf.org **no later than 5:00 pm on October 26, 2011**. Proposals received after the due date and time will not be accepted. The Foundation will not accept additional supporting materials, such as letters of support.