



Launch Your Future Today

2023-24 CTE Innovation Grant Application Request for Funds

Launch Your Future Today (LYFT) is a rural career and technical education (CTE) pathway initiative with the purpose of rebuilding CTE in the 18-county service region of southwest and west central Minnesota. The goal of [LYFT Pathways](#) is for every secondary student in the region to gain marketable skills through meaningful CTE opportunities that lead to further education and careers that match our region’s labor market needs.

This application form is for grants of \$15,000 or less that provide opportunities for businesses and schools to collaborate on hands-on CTE exploration, exposure, and experiences for students in grades 7 through 12.

Submission and Due Dates:

- Applications must be submitted by *May 31, 2023*.
- Selection and notification of successful applicants will be no later than *June 19, 2023*.
- All funds must be spent before *June 30, 2024*.
- Contact lyft@swwc.org if you have any questions or want to discuss your project idea.

Proposal Evaluation:

Section A: Collaborative Partnership	Total points: 25
Partnerships are thoroughly articulated and demonstrate active collaborative engagement and support of project by businesses, community partners, and more (as applicable).	
Section B: Innovative Project Design	Total points: 65
Project Information: Key activities, goals, and outcomes are thoroughly articulated. (10 points)	
Business Driven and Supported (15 points)	
Student-Centered (15 points)	
Collaborative and Innovative (15 points)	
Evaluation and Outcomes (10 points)	
Section C: Budget	Total points: 10
	Total points: 100

Proposal Criteria:

CTE Projects must: 1) support and engage students to gain greater exposure to careers and/or build work skills through *innovative* hands-on learning, 2) include the collaboration of at least *one school and one or more businesses or industry-related partners*, and 3) relate to local/regional career opportunities.

Funding requests must be for new project ideas (not meant to support previously funded projects). Previous LYFT Pathways funds awarded to the applicant, as well as outcomes from previously funded projects will be considered in the review process. This grant opportunity estimates that \$100,000 is available to fund 6-7 projects. The maximum amount of funding that can be requested is \$15,000. We reserve the right to offer grant amounts that differ from the applicant’s request, or the maximum identified above.

Definitions:

Industry-related partners: Business/Industry engagement is required however can be facilitated through partners such as: business/labor organizations or associations, chambers of commerce, economic development, workforce development, higher education, nonprofit/community-based organizations, community action agencies.

Innovative: Connecting and expanding existing career and technical education, developing new programming, customizing, or bringing to scale collaborative work to meet your unique student and local labor market needs now and into the future that promote career awareness and advance student learning.

Collaboration: Intentional and facilitated discussions between education and industry focused on cooperative efforts between the two, collecting input on innovative practices that further and sustain students’ career awareness and advance student learning with a focus on reducing barriers to students’ affordable access to quality, and student-centered educational experiences.

Please complete the following application to describe your collaborative project/budget request.

A. COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP(S)

1. Lead Project School/Organization/Business Name: _____
2. Lead Project Contact Person Name: _____
3. Lead Project Contact Person Email: _____
4. Lead Project Contact Person Phone: _____
5. List all school district, business, organization, agency, and college partners. Include names and email addresses below.
6. What are the roles, responsibilities, and commitments of each partner? _____
7. Describe how partners will be engaged to support the proposed project. _____

High School Partners	Contact Name	Contact Email	Role in CTE project

Business/Organization/ Agency/ College Partners	Contact Name	Contact Email	Role in CTE project

B. INNOVATIVE PROJECT DESIGN

Project Information

1. Name of proposed experiential CTE project: _____
2. BRIEFLY describe the proposed new CTE project including the hands-on experience opportunity, format (class, tours, project, etc.), and delivery method (online, ITV, face-to-face) _____
3. What are the key activities to be funded through this project? _____
4. What are the goals and measurable outcomes for this project? _____
5. Proposed start date for experiential opportunity for students: Click or tap to enter a date.
6. Estimate how many students this CTE project will serve by June 30, 2024. _____
7. What are the grade levels of the students being served? _____

Business Driven and Supported

8. Describe how this project addresses local current and/or future workforce needs: _____
9. Describe the role of business and/or organization partners in your CTE project: _____
10. Describe how these business and/or organization partners will benefit from your CTE project (i.e., What's in it for them?) _____

Collaborative and Innovative

11. What is unique or innovative about this experiential project? _____
12. If applicable, how will students from the partnering schools interact? _____

Student-Centered

13. How will you recruit students for the project? _____
14. How will you assess student interests, level of work experience, education, and skill competencies to ensure they are a good fit for the project? _____
15. What information/data do you have that indicates students would be interested in this experience? _____
16. What strategies will you use to keep students engaged in the project? _____

Evaluation/Outcomes

17. How do you plan to assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the project? _____
18. How will you know if this project has been successful? _____
19. How will this project impact students today AND into the future? _____
20. Will this project continue after June of 2024? If so, how will the project be funded, managed, and sustained beyond the grant period? _____
21. Has your school or business and/or organization received a previous LYFT grant? _____

C. BUDGET

(Please use the LYFT Budget Summary below to show how funds will be spent.)
*Funds cannot be used for building or construction acquisitions, site, or grounds acquisitions, building additions or expansions. *Requests for LYFT funds to support student or teacher travel are limited to 50% of total travel costs.*

	TOTAL BUDGET	PARTNERSHIP MATCHING FUNDS	LYFT FUNDS REQUESTED	DESCRIPTION OF LINE ITEM EXPENSE
Instructional Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
Staff travel*	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
Student travel*	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
Rental	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
Staff salary & benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$	
TOTAL	\$	\$	\$	

Please save this document as a WORD document and email it to LYFT@swwc.org