Call for Proposals

MAA Dolciani Mathematics Enrichment Grants

The [Mary P. Dolciani Halloran Foundation](#) provides funding for the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) to award grants to mathematical enrichment programs that actively engage middle or high school students beyond the standard curriculum. Projects should serve students who are ready for more challenge and show promise or interest in the field of mathematics and should not support remediation efforts. Projects should also encourage and prepare students for their continued studies of mathematics in high school and college and provide them with relevant career information whenever possible.

Proposals are sought from college and university mathematical sciences faculty possibly working in partnership with middle or high school math teachers. Middle and high school teachers are strongly encouraged to seek out college and university mathematical sciences faculty in the formulation of proposals, as projects originating from the middle or high schools are of particular interest to The Foundation.

Projects may be conducted during summer, during the school year, on weekends, or after school. Projects should be conducted over a sufficient period of time to engage student participants in learning and applying new and interesting mathematics that they will not otherwise encounter in their classes.

Sample Projects

Projects may replicate existing successful projects, adapt components of them, or be innovative. Funding may also be used to supplement existing enrichment programs in order to increase the number of students participating in those programs. Possible projects, all of which have a strong mathematical component, are:

- Math clubs
- Math Circles
- Summer mathematics camps
- Mentorship programs between post-secondary students and middle or high school students working on mathematics projects or competitions
- Speaker series focusing on mathematical enrichment topics and career opportunities
- Projects that connects students with a problem based on real applications in industry

Note: Projects do not need to incorporate all of the above components.

Funding Details

- Each project grant is capped at $5,000.
- Applications will be accepted from college and university mathematical sciences faculty at accredited U.S. (including U.S. Territory), or Canadian AUCC-member institutions.
- Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate a partnership with secondary or middle school mathematics faculty that is appropriate for the project. Either the middle or high school teachers or the college or university faculty may initiate the project and teachers are encouraged to develop ideas and to contact colleagues at a nearby two- or four-year college or university to work collaboratively. **However, a college or university must be the fiscal agent.**
- In-kind institutional support is expected as an indication of commitment to the project.
- **No** indirect costs or fringe benefits are supported.
- The Dolciani Halloran Foundation funding may be used to supplement existing enrichment programs in order to increase the number of students participating in those programs or may be used to initiate new projects.
- Program funding is restricted to activities that are not typically part of school budgets.

Restrictions

- A project may only be funded three times by the MAA DMEG program. Grant recipients must reapply each year, should they wish to continue their projects.
- Funding for the DMEG program is limited, and the MAA will make every attempt to support a broad range of projects from various geographic locations. If any department is interested in submitting more than one proposal, the proposals must support different programs and must have different personnel.
- A proposal submitted to multiple programs (Tensor Women, Tensor SUMMA, DMEG, and/or Neff Outreach Fund) in the same year will only be considered for one. The Program Directors will decide which program it is best suited for, and reject it from the other programs. We encourage applicants to carefully consider which program is best suited for their project before applying.

Timeline

The MAA DMEG program is a yearly award cycle and follows the approximate timeline below.
- November 2024: Application portal opens.
- February 2025: Applications are due.
- April 2025: Notification of award.
- May 2025-August 2026: Projects may be conducted during summer, during the school year, on weekends, or after school during this timeframe.

Project activities should conclude by **August 31, 2026** if awarded in 2025. A final report narrative on activities and a final financial report must be submitted by September 30, 2026.

If you are a current DMEG seeking a renewal, you may apply in the 2025 cycle by submitting a new application and include a summary of progress to date. Unexpended funds from a previous DMEG may be carried forward but require significant justification before approval.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted through Amplifund, our online application portal.

We encourage all applicants to click the **Download** button on the first screen of the application portal *before starting* their application to gain insight into all the information required. This will download a PDF to your computer with the full blank application form.

We recommend completing the application on Amplifund using Chrome or Firefox. There are known issues with Amplifund and Safari.

To create* a free AmpliFund account:
1. On the "Application Details" page, click "Apply".
2. On the next screen, click "Register".
3. Enter the requested information about yourself and your organization (note: for academic institutions please select "Other" as the organization type).
4. Read and accept the terms and conditions.

If awarded, this account will be used to administer your award, so please be sure to enter all of your contact information correctly.

*If your institution already has an AmpliFund account for another grant, you do not need to create your own. Amplifund is the grants management system for many organizations, not just MAA, so it is possible that your institution's grants office, or sponsored programs office, already has an account for your institution. Please check with them before creating an account.

Application Materials

Application Form

In AmpliFund, please complete the information in the fillable fields as requested.

Please Note:
- Please limit project titles to 80 characters or less. (The project title is what should be entered in the field **Application Name**.)
- If awarded, the name of the institution/organization, address, and other information you submit will be used to generate the award agreement letter, so please ensure that the correct name is included here.
- Please be prepared to include the name and email addresses of an Authorized Signatory and Financial Officer at your institution. These contacts and the Project Director are usually not the same individual.
  - The Authorized Signatory will sign the agreement letter. We will send the grant agreement letter to the attention of this contact. This person is usually in the institution's finance or grants management office.
  - The Financial Officer should be a person in your institution who will accept the award direct deposit for this grant, ensure that the funds are available to the project team, and help the Project Director with preparing the final expenditure report on the project. At most institutions, these persons are in the Sponsored Programs Office.
  - **We encourage you to discuss this project with your sponsored programs office or grants office before applying.**

Project Director and Co-Directors

Please be prepared to enter contact information for the Project Director and up to four Co-Directors. If you have more than 4 co-directors, please be sure to include their contact information in your proposal narrative.

You will need to upload a PDF of the CV of the Project Director and for each Co-Director. Each CV should not exceed two pages.

Proposal Narrative

The following guidelines should be addressed in the order listed using a font of 11 or 12 point and not exceed 5 pages. You will need to upload this as a PDF in AmpliFund.

- **Concept:** Describe the mathematical and educational concepts and activities that form the basis for the project. Include a description of the activities, the frequency, how many students are expected to participate, how the project will attract students with talent or interest, how students will be selected, who will oversee the project, and who will lead the activities. Specify the intended audience and how participants will be recruited; projects must be open to all students who show promise or interest in mathematics. Provide details on the type of mathematics and topics covered and how students will be actively engaged.
- **Objectives:** List the objectives and how they will be achieved by the project
- **Project Timeline:** Include a timeline of significant project activities, including tracking participants if it is planned.
- **Evaluation:** Describe how you will judge the success of the project. If this project has run before, please provide details on the number of students, assessment of the project, and how the DMEG funds would be used to expand or enhance the project.
- **Institutional Commitment/Sustainability:** Describe the potential for long-term continuation of the project. What is the likelihood of securing local or state funding after the initial DMEG funding?
  - You will have an opportunity to elaborate on other ways your institution will show its commitment to the current project in a later section.

Letter(s) of Recommendation

These letter(s) should be from your department chair, institutional administrators, project partners, or any other key stakeholders who are engaged with the project. You will need to merge the letters into one PDF, which you will then upload in AmpliFund.

If you are working with a middle or high school, at least one letter should be from the appropriate leadership personnel at that school.

You must have at least 1 letter of recommendation from an appropriate person at your institution. The letter should indicate their recommendation of your leadership for the project and their support for the project in general. This letter is **not** the same as the institutional commitment - more details on that below.

Institutional Commitment

Your institution is expected to show an indication of commitment to the project. The commitment can be any percentage of matching funds, or in-kind support (materials, office supplies, use of space, etc.). They need not match dollar-for-dollar.

Please prepare a brief narrative that describes how your institution is showing commitment to your project. You will need to upload this as a PDF in AmpliFund.

Note: Indirect cost (also called Facilities and Administrative Rate, or F&A Rate) is the mechanism used to reimburse a university for the infrastructure support costs associated with sponsored research and other sponsored projects. The F&A rate is essentially an overhead rate. MAA Outreach Programs do not support indirect costs.

Renewals

If the project is a renewal, please be prepared to state the year(s) that funding was previously granted.

You will then need to upload a two-page summary including:
- progress to date
- a brief overview of any evaluation results
- a budget summary of money expended to date
- if applicable, plans for spending remaining funds.

If your summary of progress and financials is not sufficient, your proposal will not be renewed.

Budget

You will be asked to complete a fillable budget form in AmpliFund. The budget form will have separate lines for you to enter line items against the provided budget categories. Each line item will also have a space for your budget justification. Please include a brief but thorough narrative justifying the need for each budget item.

> For example, "Supplies - We are requesting "X" amount of money to purchase supplies such as pens, pencils, markers, and notebooks for the students to use for their daily projects."

If your budget justification is blank or does not include enough information to justify the expense, your proposal will not be reviewed.

All line items are considered **Non-Personnel** Item Types in AmpliFund, as MAA Outreach Programs do **not** support indirect costs or fringe benefits.

The following categories have been set up in the budget template. If you have an expense that does not fall into one of these categories, you may create a new category.

Consultants/Contracts
Line items in this category can include: guest speaker fees, consultant fees, etc.

Participant Support
This category is for any stipends or other payment given to students for their PARTICIPATION in the project.

Project Leadership
Line items in this category can include salaries/stipends for project personnel such as PI, Co-PI, and other senior personnel.

Supplies
This category is for line items needed to successfully implement your project. They can include items such as t-shirts, office supplies, food (snacks/meals for participants during programming), activity materials (puzzles, origami paper, etc.), and more.

Travel
This category is for any expenses related to project travel. This can include: student travel, speaker travel, transportation costs, etc.

Other Direct Costs
Any other costs for your project.

Please note that this fillable budget form is only for **new** funds requested; not for any remaining funds from a previous project or other expected funding.

The form will automatically total your line items and will not allow your budget to exceed the amount you requested at the beginning of the application.

Characteristics of Effective Programs

While projects will have a high degree of variability, there are some characteristics that effective projects will share:
- Distinct, fresh, and innovative
- Target middle or high school students who are highly motivated or show promise;
- Clearly articulated and measurable project objectives;
- Strong academic component beyond the standard K-12 curriculum, with a focus on enrichment;
- Actively engage students in the activity and in mathematics;
- A clearly defined activity that engages students in the process, structured in a way to have a positive impact on the student;
- Highly competent project team;
- Provide information on careers that use mathematics extensively in a way that will encourage students to pursue mathematical study;
- Use of appropriate role models;
- Evaluation plan that tracks participants and goals of the project;
- Institutional commitment.

Projects may also include mentoring of student participants, involvement of parents, teachers, and counselors, or a peer support system.

Contact Us

For further information regarding proposed projects, please contact the MAA DMEG Program Director Zsuzsanna Szaniszlo at dmeg@maa.org.

For technical information regarding submission of your proposal and any other questions, contact the MAA Programs Staff at programs@maa.org.