

Helping teachers teach, and kids learn.



Mini-Grants for Teachers



Ruiz 4 Kids is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which began in 1991 because of caring Ruiz Foods members. For over 20 years, Ruiz 4 Kids has worked to address the relevant needs of kids in our communities. Ruiz 4 Kids understands every day teachers are faced with keeping children interested and challenged with few resources beyond basic curriculum.

Limited school budgets often cannot support the creative ideas and enriching material teachers want to bring to their classrooms to meet student needs. The Mini-Grants for Teachers Program knows by working together, we are impacting the ability of educators to create meaningful learning experiences for children.

How Does It Work?

Through a very simple application process, K-12 teachers can apply for grant funding to provide enriching academic experiences in their classrooms. Grant awards range from **\$300-\$1,000**. Grant applications are due by **June 15th** of each year. Mini Grant notifications will go out the first week of August.

Ruiz 4 Kids' objective is to encourage and support teachers who have **great ideas** for **creative** use of curriculum that will provide **enhanced learning experiences** for students. Although we realize the need for technology in the classroom, we have been overwhelmed with requests for iPads. Remember, the key words are "great ideas," "creative" and "enhanced learning experiences."

Mini-Grants enable the purchase of special materials and resources for the classroom and are intended to support project not provided for within school budgets or through other means. All grant recipients are expected to report on the expenditure of grant funds and results of the supported project at the end of the funded school year.

Who Can Apply?

Public K-12 school teachers are eligible to apply in Tulare, Parlier, Orange Cove, Dinuba, Cutler, Orosi, Reedley, and the Elementary schools in the Visalia Unified School District (please visit our website for the complete list), California; Grayson County, Texas and Florence, South Carolina public K-12 school teachers are also eligible to apply. No more than one grant will be awarded per teacher per year.

Funding Priorities

- **Impact:** Potential to improve student achievement; potential for continuation/replication; potential to enhance instructional skills.
- **Innovation:** Creativity of project; innovative approach; academic objective with curriculum context.
- **Planning:** Clear plan for project implementation; teacher capability; cost effectiveness and realistic budget.
- **Existing Resources:** Grant funding will not supplant existing funding. Project cannot be achieved with existing school budget.

Excluded Projects

Mini-grant applications will not be considered for the renovation of facilities, religious activities or teachings, non-academic projects, field trips, or tuition for special classes.

Evaluation

Grantees must provide a written report to Ruiz 4 Kids at the conclusion of their project. This report must include a financial statement and a narrative describing the project and how it benefited students and the teacher. Unused funds must be returned to Ruiz 4 Kids at the end of the school year for which the grant was awarded.

To Apply:

Applications are available online at: www.ruiz4kids.org. Submit application to the corresponding location:

California

Blanca Santana
PO Box 37
Dinuba CA 93618
blancas@ruizfoods.com

Texas

Rebeckah Flanagan
2410 Texoma Dr
Denison, TX 75020
rebeckahf@ruizfoods.com

South Carolina

Krista Meekins
2557 Florence Harlee Blvd
Florence, SC 29506
kristam@ruizfoods.com

For More Information:

Community Relations Coordinator
Blanca Santana 559-591-5510 x2239