



## **The AED Foundation Grant Guidelines**

### **High School Improvement Fund**

#### **Grantmaking Principles**

The AED Foundation is actively addressing the serious shortage of skilled professionals in the equipment industry through expansion of our “community-based, school-to-work” school partnership strategy. Therefore, The AED Foundation’s grantmaking is:

- ❖ *Impact Focused* by prioritizing funding requested that demonstrate clear, measurable outcomes for students and meaningful contributions to workforce readiness
- ❖ *Targeted* by investing in specific program improvements including equipment, and supplies that directly enhance hands-on training and student experience
- ❖ *Expert Informed* by engaging education and technical training professionals in the review process to ensure funding decisions reflect instructional quality, industry relevance, and potential for long term impact

#### **Grant Eligibility & Overview**

- ❖ Open to all AED Foundation Recognized High Schools
- ❖ Apply for up to \$10,000 to support program improvements
- ❖ Applications must include a letter of support for this funding request from an Industry Partner *\*a letter of support template can be found on our website\**
- ❖ Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through 2026
- ❖ Only one application will be accepted per fiscal year or as funds allow
- ❖ Funds may be used solely for supplies and equipment

#### **Grant Application Review Process**

- ❖ Applications will be reviewed on a quarterly basis
- ❖ Applications will be reviewed by the High School Improvement Fund Committee consisting of individuals with broad, hands-on experience across education and industry, whose varied backgrounds contribute to a balanced and thoughtful approach to supporting training and career development initiatives

- ❖ Applications will be reviewed using a standardized evaluation rubric designed to promote fairness, consistency, and alignment with the Foundation's grantmaking priorities

### **Reporting Requirements**

- ❖ Submit final report provided by the Foundation within 30 days of completing the funded purchase or program improvement
- ❖ Provide at least one student or program success story that illustrates the impact of the awarded funding
- ❖ Submit photos of purchased equipment, program improvements, or students using grant funded materials to support impact storytelling