2018 GOLD STAR GRANT PROGRAM

For more than 25 years, Emerson has honored area teachers with Emerson Excellence in Teaching Awards. These awards provide an opportunity to personally recognize the most dedicated educators in our area for their commitment to our children. To expand our support of the St. Louis educational community, we started the Excellence in Teaching Gold Star Grant Program in 2006. The program awards cash grants to select Excellence in Teaching Award recipients, to help them further their goals.

Grant Categories and Scope

Current and recent Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award recipients (years 2012 – 2017), who teach grades K–12, have the opportunity to apply for an Emerson Gold Star Grant. Emerson Gold Star Grants will be presented in two categories:

- **Individual Category** *(grades K through 12).* At least two $2,500 cash grant awards to selected individual teachers, plus a $2,500 grant for each winner’s employing school.
- **Teamwork Category* *(grades K through 12).* At least one $10,000 cash grant award to a teaching team (two or more teachers, one of which must be an eligible Gold Star Grant applicant), plus a $5,000 grant for each winning team’s employing school.

Eligibility

Eligibility for consideration for an Emerson Gold Star Individual Grant is limited to educators in the St. Louis area who both (1) currently teach in the Kindergarten through 12th grades, and (2) were recipients of the Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

To apply for an Emerson Gold Star Teamwork Grant, at least one team member must be a current or prior Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award recipient (having received an award in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017). **Only one team nomination per school district is permitted. Multiple team nominations from the same district will be disqualified. We recommend you coordinate your submission through your school district’s office.**

Guidelines

While there are no specific guidelines for Gold Star Grant applications, the selection committee will take special notice of the following:

- Proposals that reflect the pillars of the Emerson brand – *technology, innovation, and leadership.*
- Proposals that are *not* directly related to mandatory curriculum. We are seeking applications that are looking to fund projects that would likely not be completed otherwise.
- Proposals that include plans to define the project’s success.

*Only high-quality applications will be considered for the Emerson Gold Star Teamwork Grant – and the award may not be distributed every year.*
Additionally, proposals can include, but are not limited to, support related to:

- Classroom or school equipment
- Team-building activities
- Student field trips
- Post-graduate study, research, or academic development activities
- Professional certifications, if it directly benefits students
- Life experience activities that contribute to professional and personal growth

**Application Submission**

Gold Star Grant application forms are available for download at [www.Emerson.com/ExcellenceinTeaching](http://www.Emerson.com/ExcellenceinTeaching).

An applicant must also include a one-page letter of endorsement from an administrator within his/her employing school district or educational institution. School districts or educational institutions are permitted to sponsor more than one teacher for an individual Emerson Gold Star Grant award.

Email the completed application and administrator letter to Emerson.GoldStar@fleishman.com. **Applications must be emailed no later than February 9, 2018.**

**Selection Process**

Awarding of an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Gold Star Grant is based solely on the teacher’s responses provided on the completed application form, accompanied by a letter of endorsement/support from an administrator within his/her employing school district or educational institution.

Applications will be reviewed by Emerson with the assistance of a judging panel. The panel will recommend up to 10 applicants as finalists with Emerson selecting the Gold Star Grant recipients. Recipients of the Emerson Gold Star Grants will be announced in May 2018.

**For Additional Information**

If you have any questions, please contact Erin Cicotte at 314-982-0577 or by email at Emerson.GoldStar@fleishman.com.

Application forms are available for download at [www.Emerson.com/ExcellenceInTeaching](http://www.Emerson.com/ExcellenceInTeaching)

All applications must be submitted via email to Emerson.GoldStar@fleishman.com