

**DRAFT 3/4/19**

### **Girls STEM group launches mini-grant program April 1**

Abstract: The Montana Girls STEM Collaborative Project will launch a mini-grant program on April 1. The grants are designed to support girl-serving STEM-focused organizations in Montana.

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March 15, 2019

BOZEMAN -- The Montana Girls STEM Collaborative (MGSC), a statewide initiative to encourage girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), will launch a mini-grants program on April 1. Educators, community groups and other organizations committed to collaborating, informing and motivating girls are encouraged to apply.

Organizations may apply for funding up to \$1,000 and must have at least one partner.

Applicants can also take advantage of two special collaboration opportunities that offer not just funding but an entire package of coaching, mentoring from Montana STEM role models and support throughout their project.

The State of Montana Information Technology Managers' Council, comprised of technology professionals from Montana state government agencies, will offer extensive support to an organization whose project focuses on information technology that supports Montana citizens. And, Montana NSF EPSCoR, a statewide program of the Montana University System, offers a support package to an organization whose project focuses on water issues, the key research topic for Montana NSF EPSCoR scientists and engineers.

Programs that serve both boys and girls are eligible to apply, though applicants will be asked about specific efforts to recruit girls and/or other audiences typically under-represented in STEM. Organizations in Montana's smallest communities are particularly encouraged to apply.

The online application system will open April 1 and proposals are due May 3 at 5 p.m.

Learn more about the mini-grant program and special support packages at <http://www.ngcproject.org/node/9459/grants/> [OLD LINK]

Montana Girls STEM Collaborative is an outreach program of Montana NSF EPSCoR with co-leaders at Montana State University and the University of Montana and volunteer board members throughout the state. In addition to the ITMC and NSF EPSCoR, the 2019 mini-grant program is supported by the National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD).

For more information, visit <http://ato.montana.edu/girlsstem/> or contact Suzi Taylor with MSU Academic Technology and Outreach at [taylor@montana.edu](mailto:taylor@montana.edu).