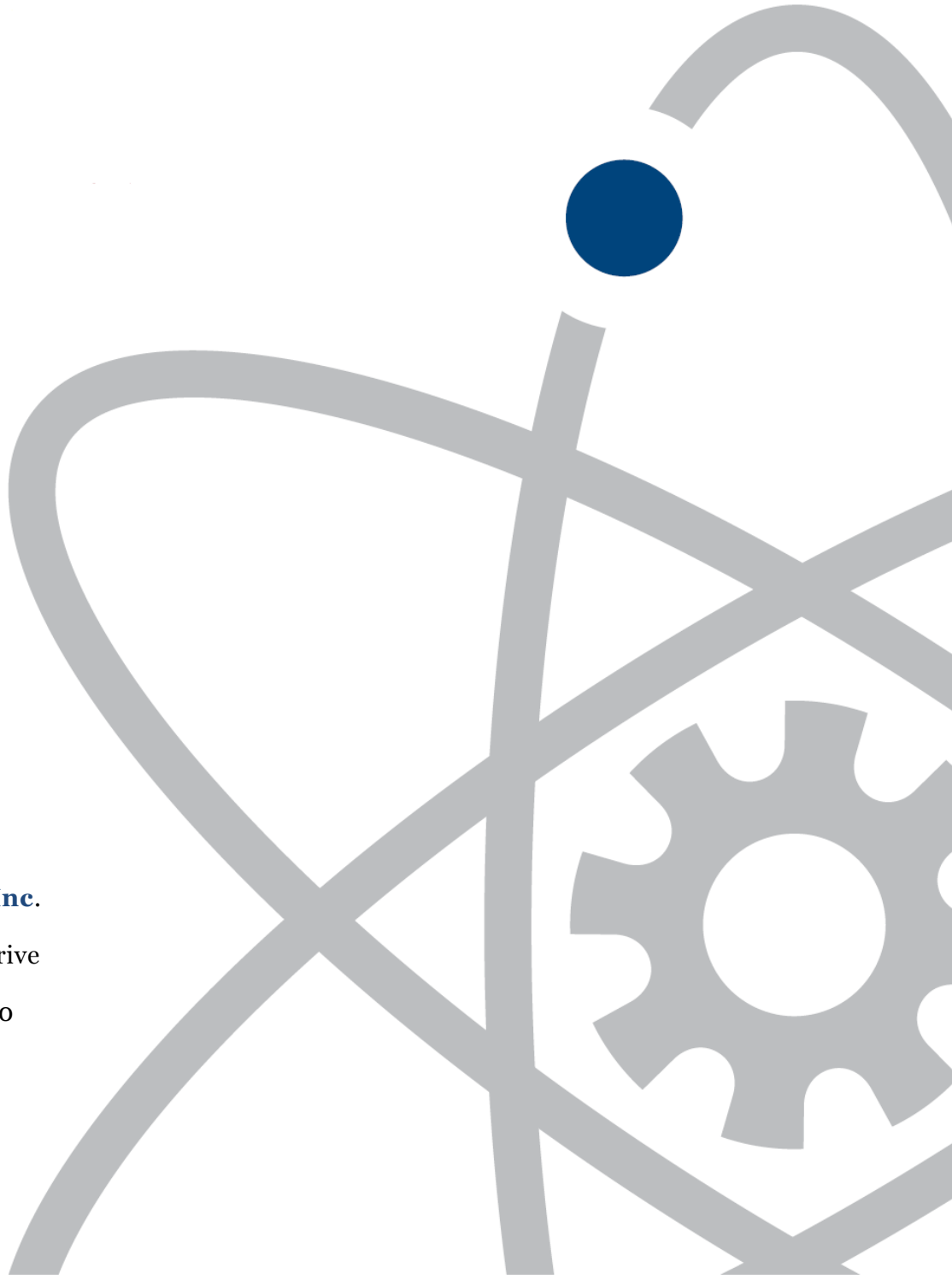




# 2016-2017 PLTW's John Deere School Grant Competition

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## 2016-2017 PLTW's John Deere School Grant Competition

### Background

Evidence shows that companies are not finding workers with problem-solving, critical thinking and collaboration skills, who persevere when something does not work the first time. Students need more opportunities to develop these skills and teachers need support in empowering students to build those skills.

In order to address these challenges, John Deere's Inspire program has partnered with PLTW to provide grant support to middle schools interested in implementing PLTW Gateway program. John Deere Inspire is a global initiative that is designed to inspire the next generation of innovators through education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) coupled with connections and hands-on experiences with the real world. John Deere considers STEM literacy increasingly important for all students regardless of career choice to support 21st century learning and jobs. John Deere's ultimate goal with the initiative is to significantly increase the number of high-quality students, including diverse talent, who enroll, graduate and are successfully working in STEM related professions and consider John Deere as an employer of choice.

Through this partnership, John Deere has committed funds to support schools via PLTW's School Grant Program which leverages PLTW infrastructure to administer and manage competitive grants to schools.

Schools meeting eligibility requirements outlined within this RFP are invited to apply for competitive grant funds to support the implementation of a new Gateway program.

### Important Dates

- Application open: October 15, 2015
- Application closes: December 15, 2015
- Award Notification: January 2016

### Eligibility Requirements

Please read and ensure all the eligibility requirements are met prior to applying.

NOTE: This is a competitive application process and *applicants are not guaranteed funding*.

**PROGRAMMATIC:** Schools must implement [PLTW Gateway](#) beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

**GEOGRAPHIC:** Schools must be **located within 50 miles** of one of the following locations:

- California - Torrance
- Georgia - Augusta
- Illinois - Champaign
- Illinois - Quad Cities
- Iowa - Des Moines
- Iowa - Dubuque

- Iowa - Ottumwa
- Iowa - Quad Cities
- Iowa - Waterloo
- Kansas - Coffeyville
- Louisiana - Thibodaux
- North Carolina - Raleigh-Durham
- North Dakota - Fargo
- North Dakota - Valley City
- Wisconsin – Horicon

**PARTNERSHIP TEAM:** Schools must commit to establishing a PLTW Partnership Team within the grant period. The school's PLTW Partnership Team must include a representative from John Deere.

**ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE:** Preference will be given to schools with plans to have all students enroll in at least one Gateway unit during their middle school experience.

## Grant Period and Grant Amount

The **PLTW Gateway** implementation grant period is two years.

- **Year 1 (2016-2017):** Grant awards of up to \$10,000 are distributed in Year 1. Schools are required to offer, at minimum, one Gateway unit during the 2016-2017 academic year.
- **Year 2 (2017-2018):** Grant awards of up to \$10,000 are distributed in Year 1. Schools are required to offer, at minimum, two Gateway units during the 2017-2018 academic year.

## Use of Funds

### Allowable Expenses

Funds may be used for the following types of program expenses:

- PLTW Participation Fee
- Teacher training expenses
- Required equipment and supplies
- Laptop computer designated to the PLTW teacher
- Lab printer

### Unallowable Expenses

Funds may **not** be used for:

- Salaries or Stipends
- Benefits
- Meals
- Infrastructure
- Student computers
- Renovations
- Equipment and supplies listed as "Optional" in the PLTW Purchasing Manual

- Indirect Costs
- Any other expenses unspecified as allowable

## Implementation and Reporting Requirements

### Implementation Requirements

#### Year 1

- Complete the initial PLTW program registration process,
- Purchase required equipment and supplies,
- Adhere to PLTW professional development requirements,
- Offer, at minimum, one Gateway unit during the 2016-2017 academic year,
- Begin formation of a PLTW Partnership Team, and work to identify a John Deere representative to serve as a member,
- Submit all required reports (see below).

#### Year 2

- Adhere to PLTW professional development requirements,
- Offer, at minimum two Gateway units during the 2017-2018 academic year,
- By end of Year 2, schools must have formed a PLTW Partnership Team and have secured a John Deere representative to serve as a member,
- Submit all required reports (see below).

### Required Reporting

PLTW requires schools receiving support for implementing PLTW Gateway course to complete and submit three annual reports for both Year 1 and Year 2.

- 1. Narrative report:** includes questions about program accomplishments, impact of the program on the community, challenges experienced, recruitment efforts, and community support. Schools are also asked to share photos, and may voluntarily provide videos, newspaper articles, or other pieces of media about their PLTW program if available.
- 2. Data collection report:** requests information about student enrollment, student demographics, course offerings, and various other topics.
- 3. Financial report:** The financial report requests information about the grant budget and actual expenditures.

### Submission Instructions

All applications must be submitted online through the PLTW grant application system: <http://grants.pltw.org/>. Applications must be received on or before the closing date. No late submissions will be accepted.

1. Login to <http://grants.pltw.org/>.
  - a. Note: New users must first create their login credentials by clicking on the New Registration link at the bottom of the login page.
2. Click on the “**Forms**” tab on the left-hand navigation bar. Under the “**Forms**” Tab:

- a. Review the supplemental documents within the John Deere section.
  - i. A copy of this RFP is listed again for your reference.
  - ii. Application Preview—This provides a preview of the questions asked on the application. It is not editable and should be used as a tool to help prepare you for all questions on the application.
  - iii. Budget Summary Template – Financial template to compile all costs.
  
- b. Complete the following items.
  - i. Budget Summary Template– Provides a single-page standard template that compiles all program costs.
    1. Complete this budget using your finalized program inventory workbook.
    2. Note: You will be asked to upload this document as part of your application.
  - ii. PLTW's John Deere Grant Application – Complete the online application named *PLTW's John Deere Grant Application*.
    1. Note: Online applications can be saved and returned to at a later point.
    2. Submit your application by clicking “Finish/Submit” on the final page of the online application.
    3. You should receive an email confirming receipt of your submission.

## Contact Information

If questions arise throughout this process, please contact [grants@pltw.org](mailto:grants@pltw.org).