



## 2023 Illinois High School Journalism Grants Program

*This grant program made possible through funding from the Illinois Press Foundation and Illinois Farm Bureau.*

### **Need a computer, software or other equipment for your school media program?**

The Illinois Press Foundation's Illinois High School Journalism Grants Program is offered to Illinois public or private high schools with existing media programs. These programs may include student publications of any type – print, broadcast, digital or social media. School programs that practice journalism (example: FFA Club that reports on its activities to the public) but don't necessarily produce a newspaper are eligible for grants. Funding this year comes from Illinois Farm Bureau. Sorry, home schools are not eligible.

#### **How to Apply:**

1. Grant Requests are due on or before May 12, 2023. Submit via email to Jeff Rogers at [jrogers@capitolnewsillinois.com](mailto:jrogers@capitolnewsillinois.com).
2. In two pages or fewer:
  - Identify school, district number, school address with ZIP code, school phone with area code, school website, principal's name, media adviser's name and email address and amount being requested. (Requests may not exceed \$1,500.)
  - Describe the community your school serves, why your school is applying for this grant, and a statement of what you ultimately hope to gain from receiving grant funds. Be specific as to how the funds will be used. (Cost *estimates* are acceptable.)
  - Describe the proposed outcomes of your proposal's success. What challenges, if any, might complicate your success? How will you address these concerns?
  - If your school is willing to match any grant funds you may receive, please include this information in your request.
  - Describe how your proposal demonstrates the use and support of the principles of the First Amendment.

#### **The applicant will agree to:**

1. Submit a final report – See Report on Use of Grant Funds below.
2. Provide photos and/or videos of students using the items purchased with grant money.
2. Return any unspent funds to the IPF. See "Timeline" below for details.

### **What the IPF Will/Will Not Fund:**

Listed below are some examples of projects we will and will not fund. Neither list is intended to be all-inclusive. If you have questions about acceptable projects, please contact Jeff Rogers

#### **Projects/Items We Will Fund:**

1. To equip newsrooms and student organizations with hardware and/or software used to produce print or online newspapers, audio or video broadcast content, and social media coverage. The IPF may send a predetermined model of an item instead of funds.
2. To launch/establish new web reporting version of existing publications.
3. To advance journalism excellence and free expression.
4. To educate students about news literacy and why news matters.

#### **Projects Items We Will Not Fund**

1. This program is not intended to begin a journalism or other media program where none exists.
2. This program is not intended to fund yearbooks.

### **Timeline:**

- Grant Proposals are due on or before May 12, 2023, and must be submitted via email only.
- All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the selection process on or before May 19, 2023.
- Grant recipients will receive grant funds or equipment from the IPF in August/September 2023.
- Any funds not expended by Dec. 1, 2023, must be returned to the IPF by Dec. 22, 2023.

### **Report on Use of Grant Funds:**

- Submit a final report, not to exceed two pages, to Jeff Rogers at [jrogers@illinoispress.org](mailto:jrogers@illinoispress.org) on or before Dec. 1, 2023, detailing how the funds were used. Document the successes and/or challenges related to the project and how this funding made a difference in your media program. We will be reporting this feedback to the IPF Board of Directors.
- We encourage you to share stories and/or updates about the school's progress toward completing this project.

**Questions? Please call Jeff Rogers at 217-241-3365 or via email at [jrogers@capitolnewsillinois.com](mailto:jrogers@capitolnewsillinois.com).**