



Ohio Middle Level Association

2026 MINI-GRANT

FOR EXEMPLARY MIDDLE LEVEL PROJECT

Application Form

The Ohio Middle Level Association is offering competitive mini-grants of \$500 for the development and implementation of exemplary teaming projects that would be replicated year after year. The intent is to provide encouragement to innovative risk-takers who seek to meet the needs of middle level students. This grant is intended to fund the endeavors of teams, not individual teachers.

Applying for the Grant

- Nominated team members must be OMLA members (individual or part of a building membership).
- Only one proposal per school should be submitted by the deadline date.
- Recipient teams willing to present their projects in a session at the OMLA State Conference will receive one complimentary voucher to attend the next scheduled conference at which they will present.
- Any product that results from the project, for example, unit plan, teaming strategy, forms or similarly tangible item(s), becomes an OMLA resource.
- Funding may only supplement current district or building plans and programs.

Criteria for Evaluation of Applications:

- School organization supports the project
- Plan is appropriate to early adolescent needs
- Instruction is student-centered and supports current "best practices"
- Objectives are reasonably measurable with proposed evaluation methods
- Budget is specific and reflects appropriate use of funding to enhance learning
- Recipient teams willing to share their project on OMLA online community.

Awarding of the Grants

- A committee of Ohio Middle Level Association Executive Board members will review all applications and determine the winning recipients.
- Applicants will receive written notice by mid-July regarding their grant status.
- Grant recipients will receive the \$500 check and one conference voucher in the mail during the month of July following the written notice.

NOTE: Recipients are not eligible to receive consecutive yearly grants.

Application Deadline: June 1, 2026

Name of Team Leader _____

School _____ Phone _____

Principal _____ FAX _____

Team Leader Email Address _____ Phone _____

School Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

County _____ OMLA Region _____

Proposal for _____

(Theme or Title)



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Please attach a sheet briefly addressing the following categories:

1. **School Organization:** Briefly describe the structure of your middle school. Include the following components:
 - a. Student/Staff population
 - b. Structure of teams
 - c. Exploratory areas included in your building's schedule
 - d. Use of media technology
2. **Project:** Describe your project and state the objective(s). Include how your unit/project will meet the academic, socio-emotional, and physical needs of students. Also include how your project will meet the needs of various learning modalities and multiple intelligences.
3. **Assessment:** How will you assess the outcomes/objectives of your unit/project?
4. **Budget:** Attach one page that contains the specific outlined budget allocations for the project as well as a narrative that states in detail how you plan to use the grant funds. Include the use of matching funds. (Matching funds are not required.) Spending should be tied to the objectives.

Contact Person/ Unit/Project Leader _____
Signature

Typed or printed name _____ *Date submitted* _____

Principal _____
*Signature**

Superintendent _____
*Signature**

*Indicates awareness and support of the proposal

Send completed nomination form to: Josh Kauffman
11589 St. Rte. 81
Dola, OH 45835
josh.kauffman@hardinnorthern.org

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than June 1, 2026