

ABOUT THE GRANT

The funding source is Assembly Bill 1535 (Nunez - 2006) which allocated \$15 million for grants to promote, create, and support California Instructional School Gardens (CISG).

The grant is non-competitive and public K-12 schools with an enrollment of less than 1,000 students may apply for up to \$2,500. Schools with an enrollment of over 1,000 students may apply for up to \$5,000. Grant funds may be used in two ways:

1. **Equipment and Supplies:** Funds for gardening tools, composting systems, irrigation, garden-based learning educational materials, seeds, plants, and more.
2. **Professional Development:** Funds for stipend for garden instructional coordinator, registration fees and travel for professional development related to Instructional School Gardens, substitute pay for teachers while attending CISG professional development, and other professional development or technical assistance.

The program is being administered by the California Department of Education (CDE). Grant applications must be submitted no later than April 20, 2007. The expected notification date is May 16, 2007.

Applications **must** be submitted by school district offices or the County Office of Education for school sites (San Diego COE Contact Nancy Taylor: 858.292.3854 or Ntaylor@sdcoe.net). Schools cannot apply directly to CDE. The grants will be awarded in the order they are received.

APPLICATION

Click here <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fq/fo/profile.asp?id=961> to access the state information and application. The applications are due by April 20, 2007, but please keep in mind that the grants will be awarded in the order received.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL GARDEN NETWORK

Click here to go to their website www.csqn.org
This website has additional information on the grants as well as a number of suggestions on how to prepare for submitting a grant, where to find materials, where to start if you don't have a garden, as well as professional development opportunities related to garden-based learning.

ANNUAL GARDENING WITH CLASS CONFERENCE

This annual teacher conference is scheduled for Saturday April 28, 2007 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds and may be something you want to include in your grant proposal for professional development. The cost is \$40.00. Classes will include how to start a school garden, grant writing techniques, incorporating math and science standards into the garden, themed gardens, and more. There will be tours of two local school gardens and a number of Make It and Take It activities. For more information, contact Krista Mendelsohn by phone (619) 562-0096 or by email Krista@rcdsandiego.org

SAN DIEGO MASTER GARDENERS SCHOOL GARDEN COMMITTEE

The San Diego Master Gardeners School Garden Committee has put together the following information to help you with your grant proposal:

General ideas for your grant proposal

If your school does not have a garden and you need some ideas on how to get started, or if you have a garden and want to expand or focus on curriculum based activities, please go to our web guide *Plant a Seed, Watch it Grow* for information. Click this link www.mastergardenerssandiego.org click on School Programs, then click on *Plant a Seed, Watch it Grow* web guide.

Suggested items for equipment and supplies grant

Here is a list of suggested equipment and other garden needs to help you determine what you might include in your grant proposal. The list is not comprehensive nor meant to imply that you need all of the following. In some instances we have included an approximate cost to help you determine what might fit within your proposal budget.

Basic garden needs for school garden

Kids tools (Ages 4-10)

hand trowels, hand cultivators, weeders, shovels, rakes, hoes

6 piece (1 each) \$45

18 piece (3 sets of each tool) \$109

Adult size tools

Tool caddy

Pruning shears

Small garden scissors

Kids work gloves

Kids mud gloves

Adult gloves

Garden wagon, cart, or wheel barrow

Hose, soaker hose, sprinkler

Hose reel

Watering cans – kid size and adult

Lidded trash cans

Plant markers
Plant stakes – assorted sizes as needed, rubber or plastic ties
Tomato cages
Soil testing kit- \$60
Magnifying glasses
Stakes
Tape Measures
Clipboards
Books – garden instruction and curriculum based. Go to
<http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/plantaseed/ref/ref.1.html>
our web guide reference page Books for some suggestions.

Plant materials

Planting soil
Mulch
Amendments
Fruit trees, vines, berries – bare root \$20 and up
Plants 1 gallon containers – average \$8, more for some natives and perennials
Annual flower or vegetable six packs – average \$3
Seeds packets – average \$3

Major items to consider

Shed \$200 and up
Greenhouse \$600 and up
Potting tables or Portable Potter \$20 and up
Irrigation materials: drip or sprinkler, pressure regulator, timer, tubing or pvc pipe
Utility sink \$70
Raised beds 4'x8' size \$35 and up depending on material used
Containers – Earth Box average \$40, self watering
Compost bins \$75
Worm bins
Path materials -DG, Odjob concrete mixer(\$40), stone molds, recycled tiles, bricks
Pest exclusion – fencing, hardware cloth, wire baskets, bird netting
Row covers and frames
Outdoor classroom seating
Hydroponic system – basic Water Farm \$65
Tiller or cultivator - \$270

To encourage wildlife in your garden

Bird houses, bird feeders, bird baths, bat house, owl house
Plant material for birds and butterflies. Go to
<http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/plantaseed/sixa/6a.1.html>
our web guide topic on Specialty Gardens for a list of suggested plants.

Cost estimate resources

To get additional cost estimates on garden equipment and supplies, check websites such as Home Depot and Lowe's. You can also go to <http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/plantaseed/ref/ref.2.html> our web guide reference page, Catalogs and Newsletters. You will find numerous links to garden catalogs which will provide more ideas and pricing. Some are general garden supply catalogs. For one focused on materials for the garden classroom, click on the link under Gardening with Kids, and then click on Store.