6 Tips for Securing a Grant for Gardyn in Your Classroom

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FOR SCHOOLS

Introduction

We know that applying for grants can feel overwhelming, but don't worry—it's easier than you think! With a bit of planning and the right approach, securing funding for your classroom resources can be a smooth and rewarding process. Grants can be a powerful solution to bring innovative tools like Gardyn into your educational setting.

To help you get started, we've compiled 6 tips for writing a successful grant application to fund Gardyn in your classroom.

Before diving into the grant application, start with a solid plan. Define specific goals and objectives for how you'll use Gardyn in your classroom. Consider how the Gardyn system will enhance STEM learning by providing hands-on experiences in agriculture, plant biology, and sustainability. Develop a plan, timeline, and budget, considering both short-term and long-term use.

Let's dive in!

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1 Research Grant Opportunities

No one size fits all, so it's essential to find the right grants for your project. The great news is that there are a lot of options out there. Our team has seen a few starting points based on our work with educators, so we've compiled a quick list to help you get started!

- Consider crowdfunding through Donors Choose.
- Corporations like Walmart often have community-focused grant programs.
- Check for state-specific grants from your **Department of Education or Department of Agriculture.**
- Explore organizations such as KidsGardening.org or Seed Your Future, which offer garden-related grants.

Be sure to review each grant's eligibility requirements and prioritize those that align with your project goals.
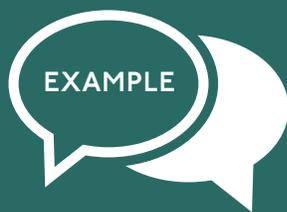
2 Craft a Compelling Narrative

You've found a grant that fits your program - perfect! Now comes the challenging part of compiling all the requirements, data, documents, and story to position your program for the best chance to receive the grant.

In your proposal, tell the story of why Gardyn is important for your classroom:

- Describe how the hydroponic system will benefit students academically by incorporating it into STEM, environmental science, and nutrition education.

- Highlight the hands-on learning aspect and how it fosters real-world skills.

- Be sure to include Gardyn's AI capabilities, leveraging the practical, hands-on use of AI tools in the classroom.

EXAMPLE

Feel free to use these excerpts in your proposal!

"By incorporating the Gardyn system into our curriculum, we will provide students with a unique opportunity to engage in hands-on learning that brings real-world agricultural practices and artificial intelligence applications into the classroom. Through this hydroponic growing system, students will explore key STEM subjects, including life science, earth science, technology, and environmental science, in an innovative and engaging way.

For example, in our life science lessons, students will learn about plant anatomy and growth cycles by monitoring the health and development of the plants in the Gardyn system. They will record observations, track plant growth, and compare different growing conditions, deepening their understanding of botany and ecology. Additionally, they will explore the environmental benefits of hydroponic farming, such as water conservation and the absence of soil, discussing how these methods can contribute to global sustainability efforts."

3 Demonstrate Community Support

We've seen success from educators who position themselves through their community support. When writing your grant, consider gathering:

- Letters of support from administrators, teachers, parents, or local organizations.

- **Mention any in-kind donations or volunteer** commitments from community members or local gardening centers.

Demonstrating community involvement will make your application more compelling and show a greater likelihood of impact and sustainability.

EXAMPLE

Feel free to use these excerpts in your proposal!

"Our project has strong community backing, including letters of support from our principal, teachers, and the local gardening center. We've also secured in-kind donations of gardening tools and compost from a local nursery, and parent volunteers have committed to assisting with garden maintenance during the school year."

4 Develop a Realistic Budget

It's important to ensure your budget matches your needs, goals, and doesn't exceed the grant amount. You can also mention any additional sources of funding in your proposal, such as matching funds or community contributions. Be sure to craft a detailed, itemized budget for your project.
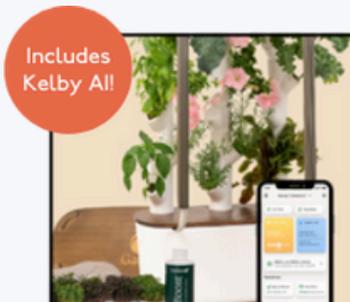
Include costs such as:

♦ Gardyn for School Bundle plus any necessary accessories.

♦ Additional educational supplies for Gardyn-related projects that you've worked into the lesson plans.

♦ Gardyn Curriculum can be included and offer more flexibility for your budget

ESSENTIALS
$1,109

- Gardyn 4.0 Hydroponic Device
- Your first harvest of 30 plants
- Plant food (3)
- Gardyn Nursery, for sprouting
- One year supply of Hydroboost for a clean and healthy device

Ideal for educators seeking fundamental tools and an engaging student experience.

Includes Kelby AI!

MOST POPULAR
$1,599

- Gardyn 4.0 Hydroponic Device
- Your first harvest of 30 plants
- Gardyn Dolly, for easy device transport
- Gardyn Nursery, for sprouting
- Supply of Hydroboost for a clean and healthy device
- 1 year membership of **Kelby AI Assistant** with Vacation Mode*

Perfect for educators seeking an interactive experience, seamless school breaks, and no recurring costs.

PREMIUM
$1,739

- Gardyn 4.0 Hydroponic Device
- Your first harvest of 30 plants
- Gardyn Dolly, for easy device transport
- Gardyn Nursery, for sprouting
- Supply of Hydroboost for a clean and healthy device
- 1 year membership of **Kelby AI Assistant** with Vacation Mode*
- Plant belts, for heavy plants (3-pack)
- Trellis, for vining or fruiting plants (3-pack)
- Gardyn Caps, for clean columns (10-pack)
- yCube Covers, for clean yCubes (10-pack)

Ideal for educators who want optimal flexibility to experiment, or who will showcase heavier, taller, or vining plants.

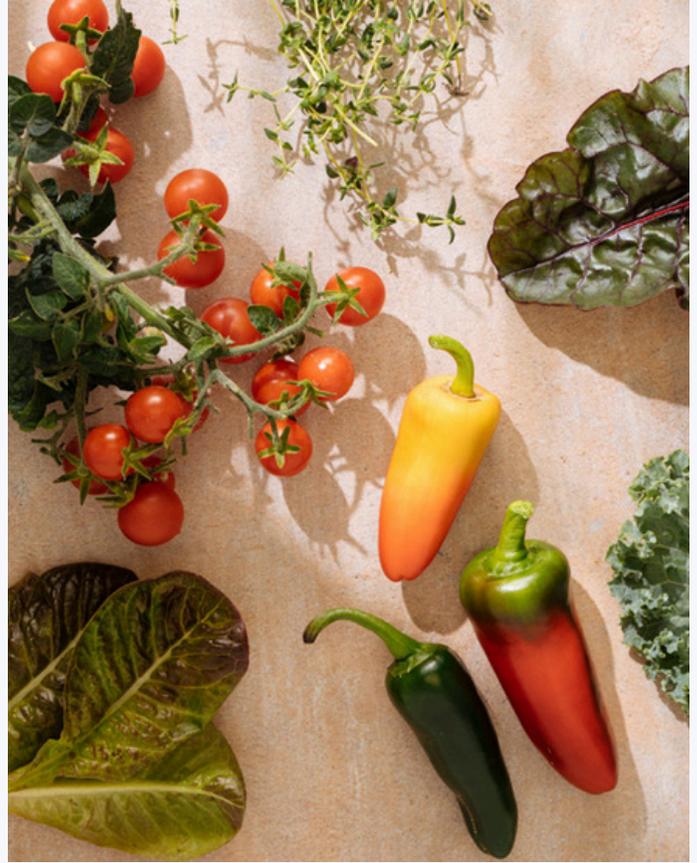Not sure about pricing? We can help!

GET A QUOTE

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5 Be Concise and Focused

Grant reviewers often go through hundreds of applications, so clarity is key. Use bullet points and strong imagery to convey your message quickly and effectively.

- Make sure to use statistics and specific grade levels that will be covered in your program

- Paint a picture of your goals, and draw on key words in the grant description

EXAMPLE

Feel free to use these excerpts in your proposal!

"This grant will allow 450 students from grades K-5 to participate in hands-on learning with Gardyn's hydroponic growing system. Over the course of 10 structured lessons in the spring semester, students will explore plant biology, water conservation, and sustainable agriculture. By incorporating the system into our existing STEM curriculum, students will gain practical experience in topics such as nutrient cycles, renewable resources, and the science behind indoor farming. Additionally, the produce grown will be used in our cafeteria, reinforcing nutrition education and farm-to-table concepts."

6 Go Beyond the Grant

Grantors prefer projects that have long-term potential beyond their initial funds. Outline how your Gardyn project will continue the grant's support:

- Curriculum integration into science and environmental classes.
- Student involvement in the upkeep of the Gardyn system.
- Plans to seek additional funding or in-kind support from local businesses.

EXAMPLE

Feel free to use these excerpts in your proposal!

"Once established, the Gardyn system will become a permanent part of our STEM curriculum, with students rotating responsibilities for monitoring plant growth and collecting data for science projects."

Inspiration: Cite stories of community impact such as Fridays on the Farm: Urban Youth Loan Borrower Grows Lettuce and a Passion for Hydroponics

Growing better produce
and making remarkable progress:

PRODUCE GROWN SINCE 2020

2,500,000 LBS OF FRESH FOOD

42 Million gallons
OF FRESH WATER SAVED FROM LAKES AND RIVERS OR 1000 OLYMPIC SIZED SWIMMING POOLS

488,700 lbs
OF PESTICIDES ELIMINATED FROM THE FOOD SUPPLY OR MORE THAN THE WEIGHT OF FIVE 737 JETS

1.3 Million lbs
OF FOOD WASTE AVOIDED GLOBALLY OR AS MUCH AS TWO MODERN CRUISE SHIPS

135 Acres
OF BIO-DIVERSE LAND PRESERVED SINCE INCEPTION OR AS MUCH AS 112 FOOTBALL FIELDS

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FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

Each grant application will have specific requirements, including word limits, attachments, and submission deadlines. Pay close attention to these details to avoid having your application disqualified.

Make sure to answer all questions thoroughly, attach any required documents, such as the Gardyn pricing flyer or educational materials.

Before submitting your grant application, have someone unfamiliar with the project review it for clarity, spelling, and grammar.

A fresh set of eyes can catch mistakes or suggest ways to make your proposal more compelling.

We hope you're well on your way to crafting a successful grant application for funding Gardyn in your classroom.

Whether you're looking to enhance your STEM curriculum or provide students with hands-on agricultural experiences, a well-written grant proposal can make all the difference.

Best of luck, and happy grant writing!

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For more information about Gardyn in the
Classroom, check out our page at
https://www.mygardyn.com/school-gardens