



2025–2026 IN-MaC Micro-Grant Program

Big Impact on STEM and Industry

The Indiana Manufacturing Competitiveness Center (IN-MaC) at Purdue Polytechnic is now accepting proposals for its annual Micro-Grant Program. These grants—up to **\$2,000** per project—support **Indiana-based** education (K–16), industry, and community organizations in advancing **STEM innovation, career awareness, and industry-education collaboration**.

Program Purpose & Focus Areas

This program funds **new or enhanced projects** aligned with one or more of the following focus areas:

1. Expose Youth and Adults (K–16) to STEM

- **STEM Equipment/Curriculum:** Integrate hands-on manufacturing equipment and curriculum into the classroom.
- **Industry and Career Awareness:** Educate students on the importance of manufacturing and future career pathways.
- **Hands-On Experiences:** Offer real-world learning within manufacturing settings.
- **STEM Camps & Workshops:** Provide immersive experiences to build interest in STEM and industry.
- **STEM-Manufacturing Connections:** Link STEM learning directly to real-world manufacturing.
- **Field Trips & Tours:** Introduce students to careers through facility visits and tours.

2. Increase Public Awareness of Manufacturing

- **Awareness Campaigns:** Highlight the impact and opportunity of manufacturing careers in your community.

3. Launch Innovative Model Projects

- **Pioneering Initiatives:** Develop scalable, replicable models bridging education and industry.

4. Support Studios and Pathway Systems

- **Design & Innovation Studios:** Combine with pathways systems to support industry-aligned learning and career decision-making.



What Micro-Grant Funds Cannot Support

- General organizational or operational support (e.g., salaries, utilities)
 - Political activity or campaigns
-

Eligibility

The program is open to **Indiana-based** applicants from:

Education (K–16):

- K–12 schools (public/private), CTE centers, and higher education institutions
- Individual educators or educator teams

Industry:

- STEM-sector businesses
- Manufacturing-related industry associations

Community Partners:

- Nonprofits focused on workforce, education, or community development
 - Grassroots or local government initiatives aligned with program goals
-

Application Period

Opens: October 1, 2025

Closes: December 31, 2025 (or when funds are exhausted)

Note: This is a *first-come, first-served* opportunity. **No retroactive funding** will be considered.

Due to limited funding availability this year, the grant selection process will be more competitive. As a result, we anticipate awarding fewer grants overall and may not be able to extend multiple awards to as many educational institutions, industry partners, or community organizations as in prior years.

Apply Now: <http://bit.ly/482cWze>



Program Requirements

Award recipients must meet the following **reporting and visibility requirements**:

- **Photos:** Submit visuals of project activities and outcomes
- **Social Media:** Tag @PurduePolytechnicINMaC when posting funded project content
- **Branding:** Include Purdue IN-MaC logo on materials
- **Acknowledgment:** Use “Project made possible by IN-MaC” on related content
- **Event Participation:** Attend the annual IN-MaC Micro-Grant Summit
- **Final Report Must Include:**
 - Project Description (≤400 words)
 - Project Outcome and Achievements
 - List of Partners/Participants
 - Project Benefits and Community Impact
 - Regional/County Reach
 - Total Youth and Adults Impacted
 - Keys to Success & Lessons Learned

Why It Matters

The IN-MaC Micro-Grant Program is a key tool in building **local workforce pipelines**, sparking **early STEM interest**, and cultivating **industry-education collaboration**. Your project can be the spark that shapes Indiana’s next generation of innovators, makers, and leaders.

Program Lead & Contact

Regina Brown

Operations Specialist, IN-MaC
brown650@purdue.edu
(765) 496-1910