



# Illumination Fund

The Illumination Fund offers small grants, up to \$500, to support student-led projects that arise from the implementation of Project Heart.

## Amount We Fund

There are four types of Illumination Funds:

- Materials grant: a grant up to \$500 to purchase supplies for a service project. (Ex: cleanup day, luncheon fundraiser, lemonade stand, etc.)
- Matching grant: The OtterCares Foundation will match up to \$500 raised by a student-led fundraiser to benefit a 501c3 nonprofit organization.
- Collection drive match: The OtterCares Foundation will make a donation to the nonprofit your project benefits based on the number of items you collect.
- Field trip fund: The OtterCares Foundation will reimburse the cost of transportation for a field trip to a local nonprofit organization. NOTE: Field trip requests will only be considered if there is a corresponding service project with the same nonprofit organization.

## How to Apply

- Step 1: Integrate Project Heart materials into instruction with K-12 students
- Step 2: Fill out and submit the [Educator Application](#).
- Step 3: Once released, form a grant writing team to work on the [Student Application](#)
- Step 4: Students submit Student application.
  - For younger students, instructors may copy their answers from the template into the online form.

## Need Support with your Application?

OtterCares offers a free, basic grant writing workshop for students of all ages. Contact Lucy Nuremberg at [lucy.nuremberg@ottercares.org](mailto:lucy.nuremberg@ottercares.org) for more information.



# Illumination Fund FAQ

## When do we fund?

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis so you can apply anytime!

## Who can apply?

Any 501c3 nonprofit organization or school that is actively using Project Heart can apply for the Illumination Fund.

## How many Project Heart lessons do I need to implement?

One of the really great things about Project Heart is the flexibility in which you present the material to your students. There is no expectation of a minimum or maximum number of lessons that you should present in order to apply for the Illumination Fund.

## How many Illumination Fund applications can I submit in one school year?

Each classroom can receive up to two Illumination Fund grants per year. Please note that if you apply for a field trip reimbursement, there must be a corresponding service project with the same nonprofit.

## Can I submit two applications for the same project?

Yes - you are welcome to apply for two Illumination Fund applications for the same project when it makes sense.

## What if my students are too young to complete the application themselves?

We suggest guiding younger students through the application conversation-style. Read each question aloud, help them formulate their answers, and record what they'd like to say on the student application for them.

## What if my class has more than two projects?

We ask that you determine which two projects from your class would benefit the most from our Illumination Fund.

## What if my request is over the \$500 threshold?

Anything that is over the \$500 threshold we ask that you work with your school to cover the remaining amount.