REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: The 2027 Chip Israel Gateway Grant *

The Nuckolls Fund for Lighting Education is pleased to announce the new **Chip Israel Gateway Grant**, a special funding opportunity designed to increase enrollment in existing lighting education programs throughout North America.

The Chip Israel Gateway Grant focuses specifically on attracting new students into existing lighting programs and augments the Fund's existing grants.

The Nuckolls Fund is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing lighting education. Established in honor of James L. Nuckolls, a pioneer in lighting education, we support initiatives that strengthen lighting curricula, foster innovation in teaching, and expand awareness of lighting as a profession.

The Chip Israel Gateway Grant is made possible through the generosity of Chip and Lisa Israel.

Purpose

The Chip Israel Gateway Grant seeks to attract new students to the field of lighting by supporting creative, measurable, and scalable initiatives that increase awareness of lighting education programs, support recruitment, and encourage enrollment.

The Grant encourages collaboration among educational institutions, industry partners, and professional organizations.

Eligibility

The grant is open to accredited North American universities that have an established education program, curriculum, concentration, certificate, or degree pathway in lighting.
Proposals may be submitted by individual faculty members, departments, or institutions.
Collaborative proposals involving industry partners, professional organizations, alumni, or other educational institutions are encouraged.

Funding

- Grants of up to **$10,000** may be awarded.
- Funding may support initiatives lasting up to **four years**.
- The amount awarded will be commensurate with the scope, impact, and feasibility of the proposal.
- The Nuckolls Fund reserves the right to award less than the amount requested or to make no award in a given year.
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Applicants are encouraged to seek institutional, industry, or community support, including matching funds or in-kind contributions.

No portion of the grant may be used for institutional overhead or indirect costs.

** Please see separate Requests for Proposals for the Edison Price Fellowship Grant, the Nuckolls Fund Grant and the Lesley Wheel Introductory Lighting Program Grant.*

Examples of Eligible Activities

We welcome creative approaches that support the grant's objectives, including but not limited to:

- Recruitment and promotional videos
- Guest lectures and speaker series
- Student scholarships or stipends
- Outreach to feeder schools and community colleges
- Career fairs and recruitment events
- Public relations and awareness campaigns
- Industry mentorship programs
- Collaborative initiatives with professional organizations
- Digital and social media campaigns
- Alumni engagement programs

Applicants are encouraged to propose innovative approaches tailored to the needs and opportunities of their institution.

Proposal Requirements

Proposals should clearly describe the initiative and demonstrate how the proposed activities will increase enrollment in the institution's lighting program.

Each proposal shall include:

1. Applicant Information

- Name and title of principal applicant
- Institutional affiliation
- Curriculum vitae or resume of principal applicant
- Names, affiliations, and roles of collaborators

2. Project Narrative

A detailed description of the proposed initiative, including:

- Goals and objectives
- Activities to be undertaken
- Target audiences
- Timeline for implementation
- Expected outcomes

3. Rationale

A statement explaining:

- Why the proposed activities are expected to increase enrollment
- How success will be measured
- Why the initiative is appropriate for the institution and its students
- **4. Project Schedule**

A calendarized implementation plan identifying major milestones and deliverables.

5. Budget

A detailed budget showing:

- Requested funds
- Use of funds
- Institutional contributions
- Industry support or in-kind contributions
- Budget allocation by project phase

6. Assessment Plan

A description of the metrics that will be used to evaluate success, including enrollment-related outcomes where applicable.

7. Reporting Schedule

A proposed schedule for progress reports, outcome assessments, and funding disbursements.

8. Letters of Support

A minimum of two letters of recommendation or institutional support.

Reporting Requirements

Grant recipients will be required to submit periodic progress reports documenting:

- Activities completed
- Enrollment outcomes
- Budget status
- Challenges and lessons learned
- Supporting materials such as photographs, videos, presentations, publications, or other evidence of project impact

Semi-annual reports are required. Continued funding is contingent upon satisfactory progress and timely submission of reports.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Potential to increase enrollment
- Feasibility and likelihood of success
- Measurable outcomes
- Long-term impact and sustainability
- Effective use of grant funds
- Creativity and innovation
- Opportunities for working with other institutions
- Ability to attract matching funds.

Proposal Submission

Proposals should include:

1. Title Page
2. Applicant Information
3. Project Narrative
4. Rationale and Expected Outcomes
5. Project Schedule
6. Budget
7. Assessment Plan
8. Letters of Support

The proposal may not exceed *nine* pages and must be submitted as a single pdf or word doc.

Other Information

Proposals due	January 11, 2027. Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged via email.
Send to	jeanne@nuckollsfund.org
Grant announced	No later than March 1, 2027.
Public Announcement	No later than March 31, 2027
Notification	All those who submit proposals will be notified of the recipient(s). Submissions will not be returned.
Agreement	The Fund requires grant recipients to sign a performance agreement and to submit status reports. Published results of grants funded by the Nuckolls Fund enter the public domain. Grant awards do not imply any form of endorsement by the Nuckolls Fund.
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Progress Reports	The Fund requires grant recipients to commit to visually documenting in images or video, the development and outcomes of their project. Physical products, presentations, examples of groupwork and trips should be recorded and submitted with regular progress reports and at the conclusion of the project with the final report.
Fee	There is no fee for submission and no limit to the number of submissions.
Restrictions	No portion of the funds awarded may be used for indirect costs (overhead). Benefits are allowable.