

# 2026 HOST Fall Grant Application

The Hands-On Science and Technology (HOST) Grant program is funded with the generous support of the Vermont Technical Council, the VASE Board of Directors, and generous donors. Over the past ten years, over \$287,000 in grant funds have been awarded to recipients in Vermont. HOST grants are for extra-curricular STEM activities, such as after-school science programs, robotics clubs, independent projects, etc.

If you are looking for in-classroom activities that require equipment, please see Small Equipment Grants (SEG), which are intended to make it easier for Vermont K-12 teachers to create STEM activities. For SEG, go to <https://www.vtscieng.org/seg-grants>

Application deadline: October 12, 2026

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\* Indicates required question



## Criteria

VASE HOST grants are intended to increase STEM opportunities for outside classrooms activities by VT-based programs. VASE HOST grants are designed to make it easier for after-school programs to create activities that expose students to the excitement of hands-on science and engineering experiences. The grants are designed to help offset the cost of the materials including hardware, software, lab equipment, STEM kits, maker tools, etc. – as well as to foster skills acquisition. To be successful, please ensure that your proposed project has a strong science and/or engineering foundation. Applications that describe STEM learning impacts are favored over a simple request for specific equipment.

HOST grants will be evaluated based on 5 criteria: Eligibility (Y/N) and four scored criteria: Quality of application, Impact, Alignment with VASE mission, and Sustainability.

Eligibility (Y/N) – must be a VT-based program with a STEM focus

- 1) Quality of application: description of the project's goals, outcomes and requirements. Feasibility/timeline will also be considered.
- 2) Impact on learning outcomes and students reached: number of people who benefit; emphasis on underserved/rural/first time awardees
- 3) Alignment with VASE's mission to support science and engineering understanding in the State of VT and VT Science standards: <https://education.vermont.gov/student-learning/content-areas/science>
- 4) Sustainability: Will there be a lasting or recurring value of the grant investment?

*A budget and budget justification need to be included. Additionally, the awardee should submit a progress report by October. 12, 2027 to VTscieng@gmail.com detailing how the funds were spent, how many students participated, and what they learned along with plans for continuing use or improvement of the equipment. The progress report should be no longer than two pages, preferably with photographs and/or links to local/school news where the equipment is highlighted.*

## Applicant Information

1. Application ID (VASE USE ONLY)

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2. Project Title: \*

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3. Organization Name: \*

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4. Primary Contact(s): \*

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5. Alternate Contact (s) with email

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6. Affiliation  
(i.e. FIRST, 4H, club, school ...)

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7. Street Address: \*

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8. City or Town (must be based in Vermont): \*

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9. Zip Code: \*

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10. Phone: \*

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11. Contact's Email: \*

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12. Website (optional):

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13. EIN (Employer Identification Number):  
Optional, if known-

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14. School District \*

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15. Non-Profit status: \*

*Check all that apply.*

☐ Yes, non-profit

☐ No

☐ Other: 

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16. My organization has applied for a VASE HOST grant in the past \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't Know

17. If your organization received past HOST grant, was a final report submitted? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

## **NARRATIVE**

18. Brief Summary of Proposed Project (100 word limit)

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19. Funding amount requested: \*  
(projects can be funded up to \$1,500)

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20. Description of and motivation for your program. Please include the following points in 500 words or less:

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- \* Describe in sufficient detail the program for which support is requested.
- Brief description of your group- what is its mission, approximate number of participants, age range and demographics of its members.
- Describe specific activities that the grant will support.

Note: HOST grants are competitive, and are ranked on a 4-point rubric:

- 1) **Alignment** with VASE's mission to support science and engineering understanding in the State of VT
- 2) **Impact** on learning outcomes and the number of people who benefit
- 3) **Sustainability** is the lasting or recurring value of the grant investment
- 4) **Quality of application** in its description of the projects goals, outcomes and requirements.

For an example of exemplary applications, please

see [https://www.vtscieng.org/files/ugd/707058\\_2b400ce7ee444073a3324bed0783efdc.pdf](https://www.vtscieng.org/files/ugd/707058_2b400ce7ee444073a3324bed0783efdc.pdf)

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## Project Budget

21. Project Budget \*

In your budget, please give detailed costs for:

- equipment
- supplies
- software
- tools
- travel
- other expenses

\*Note, VASE does not fund swag, t-shirts, food or registration fees.

Also describe your goals associated with these expenses. Describe other potential or confirmed funding sources with projected amounts. (If you would like to send a project budget by email as an attachment, be sure to include your project title, organization and contact name with the attachment to VTSCIENG@gmail.com )

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22. Project Report \*

- I will submit a brief written final report summarizing project outcomes and future plans. In my report, I will document how funds were used.

Grant recipients may be invited to attend the Spring VASE membership meeting of scientists and engineers to give a presentation on the outcomes of their project. We also request grantee teams to prepare a brief (few minutes) creative YouTube video demonstrating their project and possibly the collaborative team work leading up to its fruition. (Note, eligibility for future funding depends on your timely submission of final reports with expenses, videos, and pictures.)

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**Thank you for applying for a VASE HOST grant. We appreciate your time and wish you success with your project.**

23. **NOTE :**

VASE Hands-On Science and Technology grants are designed to cover **extracurricular and independent experiences only** and are not intended to cover in-classroom activities. For those programs please see VASE SEG grants information at <https://www.vtscieng.org/seg-grants>

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24. **Typed Signature of Applicant with applicant's role for the project \***

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25. **Date: \***

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*Example: January 7, 2019*

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