



Southern District Resource Management Team Professional Development Grant Application



UW-Extension Southern District Professional Development Grants – Instructions

Any member of the Southern District is eligible to apply for these grant funds. Grants will be awarded up to \$1000. The UWEX Southern District Development Grant application form begins on the following page.

The Southern District has allocated \$8,000 available to colleagues to be used for Professional Development Grants. These dollars are an additional supplement to the annual district professional development support funds. These funds may be used for local and out-of-state educational experiences, including workshops, conferences, and seminars that may be offered by UW-Extension or other universities, organizations, agencies or businesses. Funds must be spent by June 30, 2008.

Writing Suggestions

Please use as much space as needed for responses. However, be as *concise* as possible. If available, provide a conference brochure or other documentation to assist the committee in better understanding your request.

Application format

Applicants are encouraged to save the following Word document (next page) to their computer for ease of completion. Responses should be in a size 10 font or larger. Hand written applications are not acceptable.

Summary report

Grant recipients are expected to report on their professional development experience by one of three options:

- Monthly Southern District teleconference
- District Program All Staff meeting
- Brief report on the Southern District web site

Application due date: **March 14**

Mail the completed and *signed* application to:

Southern District Innovative Grants Committee
c/o Terry Kraft, 505 Extension Building,
432 N. Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1498

You may contact Terry at: terry.kraft@ces.uwex.edu, or phone 608.263.2781

Questions??

Contact Deb Ivey, 2007-08 SD Grants Committee Chair at debra.ivey@ces.uwex.edu or 608-935-0391

UWEX Southern District Professional Development Grants Application

Name: Jessica Jens

Title: 4-H Youth Development Agent

Full mailing address:
Sauk County UWEX
505 Broadway
Baraboo, WI 53913

Phone: 608-355-3255

Email: jessica.jens@ces.uwex.edu

Amount requested from UWEX Southern District Funds: \$ 1,000 _____

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Briefly provide the major responsibilities of your position and the number of years of service with Southern District.

I have served as the Sauk County 4-H Youth Development Agent for almost five years (my anniversary date is June 1st). My main responsibilities as the 4-H Youth Development Agent include planning, implementing, and evaluating educational programs that meet the needs of the Sauk County community. All of my programming has a youth development focus. I work with several main programming areas including: strengthening the effectiveness of the Sauk County 4-H community club program, engaging youth and adults in experiential, outdoor education programs and service-learning projects, and working with a variety of older youth audiences to help them learn and develop leadership skills. This work is completed through direct teaching, working with community coalitions, and effective volunteer training and management.

2. Describe the professional development experience for which you are requesting funding. Include the title, description, dates, location, number of hours, sponsoring group, etc.

Title: Advanced Facilitation Skills

Description: Designed for the professional who has experience leading and facilitating in an Adventure setting, and is looking to improve those skills. Participants will have the opportunity to create a safe learning community, set professional goals, plan a short sequence of activities, and facilitate them during the workshop. Participants will then receive supportive and intentional feedback from the instructor and other participants based upon the goals that they set.

The curriculum includes:

- Low Elements and Ground Activities
- Review of Adventure philosophy and theory - Challenge by Choice, Full Value Contract, Experiential Learning Cycle, Adventure Wave, GRABBSS Checklist
- Goal setting and self-assessment
- Opportunities for participants to lead a section of the workshop
- Feedback processes - giving and receiving feedback
- Advanced models of facilitation
- New activities, new ways to frame old activities

Dates: September 26 – 28, 2008

Location: Beverley, Massachusetts at the Project Adventure International Headquarters

Number of Hours: Approximately 36 hours (in 3 days of training)

Sponsoring Group: Project Adventure

As the leader in the field of facilities-based Adventure Learning, Project Adventure (PA) has accumulated a wealth of knowledge over its 32-year history. This knowledge is encapsulated in their many program designs, in the many program adoptions and adaptations of their models at local sites all over the world, in their publications and in

their own staff's skills and competencies. PA currently have a research partnership with the University of New Hampshire, the leading research university in outdoor education and experiential learning. Information, background, studies and articles about Project Adventure's work can be found on www.wilderdom.com. Through partnerships with schools and agencies, PA is researching and developing programs and materials that can be used anywhere. PA's renewed emphasis on research, documentation and evaluation will enable a consistency of quality and integrity to infuse the work of Adventure. Only with solid data to support the claims of the efficacy of the Adventure-learning tool can we effectively present the potential of our approach and methodologies to transform teaching and learning.

3. How does this experience support your professional development plans?

Because my graduate studies focused on outdoor education, most of my programs are taught and facilitated in an experiential education manner. This type of facilitation has led to innovative youth development programs in Sauk County. Continual education in the field of adventure education will increase my abilities and effectiveness as an Extension educator. By improving on and learning additional advanced group facilitation skills, this will support my professional development plan in several of my main programming areas. In particular, this workshop will specifically meet professional development needs in my experiential, outdoor education programming such as youth environmental stewardship projects, rock climbing programs, 4-H camping programs (base camp and adventure camp), and youth leadership trainings.

4. How will this program or study benefit your clientele?

Facilitation is a key component of my work in Sauk County and my other responsibilities in the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development program area.

In Sauk County, this professional development opportunity will allow me to...

- Introduce new facilitation skills and activities in the rock climbing, 4-H camp, youth leadership trainings, and Youth Environmental Projects of Sauk County programs.
- Share facilitation tips and techniques with groups I work with—specifically the Sauk County 4-H Community Club program.
- Increase my effectiveness at facilitating activities with diverse groups such as at-risk youth and families (specifically at our new “Family Camp” family strengthening programs.)
- Increase educational outcomes in my clientele through the utilization of new, powerful facilitation techniques.

Throughout Wisconsin, this professional development opportunity will allow me to...

- Coordinate and present a full-day facilitation skills workshop for other interested Extension educators. I presented a short facilitation skills program at a Southern District 4-H YD meeting and received feedback about a desire to have a more in-depth training opportunity on facilitation skills.
- Utilize new skills, techniques, and tips learned in creating support and training material for 4-H community clubs statewide.
- Share new skills, techniques, and tips learned that are useful in improving 4-H camp experiences for younger 4-H campers and older youth 4-H camp counselors.

5. If this program or study includes giving a presentation at a conference, provide the title, type of presentation, and audience.

N/A

6. Summarize the total cost of professional development experience including registration fees and expenses.

Registration Fee:	\$500
Lodging:	\$165
Meals:	\$165
Airfare	\$250 (roundtrip)
Transfer from airport:	\$130 (round trip)
TOTAL	\$1,210

7. Summarize your sources of funding:

Amount requested from the district: \$ 1,000

Amount requested from other sources:

Personal funding \$ 210

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

Total cost of the opportunity: \$ 1,210

Please Note Funding requested for registration, lodging, meals, and airfare can all be expended before the June 30, 2008 deadline.

8. If you have requested funds from other sources, please explain the amounts requested and the source(s).

N/A

Applicant's Signature

Date

Endorsement Signature*

* Department Head

Date