MOONSHOT

GRANTS

Bold ideas for the future of learning

powered by

with support from
For 14 years, the Remake Learning network has worked at the intersection of technological and social change in education.

From our base in the greater Pittsburgh region, we have championed modern learning values—like creativity, problem-solving, and cross-cultural understanding—as a critical means to prepare learners to work, live, and thrive in an ever-changing future. We uplift hands-on, people-centered, and research-backed practices for teaching and learning, supporting communities, collaborative teams, partnerships, and schools as a regional drumbeat for change.

In 2020, the Tomorrow campaign, powered by Remake Learning, built on these 14 years of practice, partnership, and shared values to both find meaning during a time of rapid change and challenge and dream beyond the current moment, boldly envisioning our next horizon. Influenced by the cascading impacts of the pandemic and uprisings for racial justice, The Grable Foundation awarded 17 organizations Tomorrow Grants, inviting them to boldly imagine what smart, future-minded risks they might take with research and development-like funding. Organizations were given time and space to dream their preferred futures for learning, informed by present-day change. In turn, each was granted funds to pursue their ideas, using support to build out experimental ideas, test new concepts, and find powerful ways to move the education field toward a new future of learning.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced education innovation into the heart of almost every education system around the globe... The question is no longer how to scale innovations from the margin to the center of education systems but how to transform education systems so that they will source, support, and sustain those innovations that address inequality and provide all young people with the skills to build a better future for themselves and their communities.

- Brookings Institution
Inspired by the Tomorrow Grants, Remake Learning will expand this opportunity in 2021, with its Moonshot Grants, inviting the entire network and region to, as IDEO and Imaginable Futures puts it, “think radically for equitable futures.”

THE OPPORTUNITY

Moonshot Grants will invite schools and educational organizations to apply for funds that support the testing of bold ideas. Ideas should address challenges and opportunities for developing or improving supports for young people, educators, and caregivers.

As educators continue to respond to pandemic conditions and grapple with a changing social, economic, political, and racial landscape, a return to our previous status quo is unlikely. Successful grant applicants will approach this reality as an opportunity, seeking out ideas, collaborators, solutions, and innovations to not only address prior challenges but also new ones that will inevitably arise.

Looking ahead, educators will need to approach the future with boldness. Moonshot Grants will embrace this essence and combine funding with professional learning and community building to support educators, young people, and caregivers and provide them with the tools and knowledge to envision and navigate the future.

Specifically, Moonshot Grants will challenge applicants to envision what they hope learning will look like in ten to twenty years, what we call a preferred future of learning. Successful applicants will look for inspiration in signals of change, or the early examples of how preferred futures are emerging today. Their projects will capture the bold, experimental actions we can take today to accelerate us toward a preferred future.

Preference will be given to projects that prioritize bold experimentation, incorporate collaboration, and center equity and justice by supporting learners of color, learners in poverty, learners in rural areas, girls in STEM and/or learners with disabilities.
THE MOONSHOT VISION: BOLD, EXPERIMENTAL, JUST

“Futuring” allows us to imagine possible outcomes with the hope of exploring, better sensing and equipping ourselves for the potential realities ahead of us.

– Learning Reimagined: Radical Thinking for Equitable Futures, Imaginable Futures and IDEO

Moonshot Grants are programmatic. Based on the ideas presented in their proposals, selected grantees will form a cohort. This cohort will work to further develop their ideas to:

- be more engaging, relevant, and equitable;
- operationalize around justice, methods, and relationships;
- and better position teaching and learning to ultimately move us from our current paradigm to a new one.

The Moonshot grantee cohort will work with the Remake Learning team, KnowledgeWorks, and other leading experts in education changemaking (regionally and nationally) throughout the summer and fall of 2021.

Moonshot grants are an opportunity to work with a group of peers to address new and persisting challenges in education.

THE TIMELINE

We anticipate holding two rounds of Moonshot Grants. The first request for proposals (RFP) will open in February 2021 and the second will open in June 2021.

Round 1:

2/4: RFP opens
2/18, 3/9, 3/25: Informational workshops for prospective applicants
4/11: Proposals due
5/10: Round 1 grant recipients announced

Round 2:

6/7: RFP opens
6/29, 7/22, 8/5: Informational workshops for prospective applicants
8/22: Proposals due
9/20: Round 2 grant recipients announced

In addition, 1-1 “office hour” sessions will be available by request throughout the grant process. To schedule a session, email apply@remakelearning.org.
**REQUIREMENTS**

- Attend one of the informational workshops before submitting an application. These will help you understand and craft the kind of ideas we are looking for.
- If you are awarded a grant, attend ongoing deeper dive cohort workshops.

**ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for a Moonshot Grant, applicants must:

- Be listed in the Remake Learning network directory. To add yourself, visit remakelearning.org/join.
- Be a 501(c)3, school, university, or fiscally sponsored project, such as an out-of-school organization, early learning center, museum, library, or similar provider. You may have other entities and individuals in your proposal, but the applicant must be one of the entities listed.
- Be based in Remake Learning’s greater Pittsburgh service area, which includes the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Mercer, Washington, and Westmoreland in Pennsylvania, as well as the counties of Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, and Wetzel in West Virginia.

**FUNDING TIERS**

Based on the type of project proposed, applicants can request either:

- **Catalytic funding, up to $30,000.** Catalytic funds will support never-before-seen ideas, untested theories, and deeply experimental projects.
- **Advancing funding, up to $70,000.** Advancing funds will support projects that test emerging ideas. While still bold and experimental in nature, these projects may be based on other exploratory projects or early research. Those applying for Advancing funds will be asked to provide examples of corresponding work.
You are encouraged to review some of the following materials to better understand how this proposal process has been designed, how language is being used, and to get a feel for the kind of project ideas we have in mind. Publications with * are the most heavily used/referenced in the RFP materials.

From Remake Learning

* Remaking Tomorrow: Learning in a Post-Pandemic Future

How Learners See Themselves

Learning and Impact

Reframed

Tomorrow Today: Letters from a Future in the Making

National publications

Restarting and Reinventing School, Learning Policy Institute

* Learning Reimagined: Radical Thinking for Equitable Futures, Imaginable Futures and IDEO

* Beyond Reopening Schools: How education can emerge stronger than before COVID-19, The Brookings Institution

About Remake Learning

Read more about Remake Learning here. To request an information session about Remake Learning, please email info@remakelearning.org.