



**Missouri Afterschool Network
Call for Applications Entrepreneurship
Micro-Grants**

**Round 3 Projects: June 1 - Dec 15, 2022
Applications Due By: Apr 30, 2022**

Missouri afterschool programs – receive up to \$2,000 micro-grant to support middle and high school students in exploring and experiencing entrepreneurship afterschool during 2022!

- **Open to all programs, new and continuing to request funding by Apr 30, 2022.**
- **Receive stipend and implement project between June 1 and Dec 15, 2022.**
- **Access nationally-recognized curriculum, resources, and staff training.**
- **Join MASN's Entrepreneurship PLC, a professional learning community of peer afterschool programs and staff empowering K-12 students with entrepreneurial mindset, skillset, immersion, and experience!**

Call for Micro-Grant Applications

Missouri Afterschool Network is excited to announce 6-10 micro-grants to be awarded to Missouri afterschool programs this spring to support projects that demonstrate the potential for middle and high school entrepreneurship during 2022. This call for applications is open to ALL Missouri K-12 afterschool and summer learning programs.

Objectives of the micro-grants include:

1. Unleashing the potential of students as entrepreneurial thinkers and problem-solvers.
2. Engaging middle and high school students on a youth entrepreneurship pathway.
3. Growing afterschool program capacity for entrepreneurship programming.
4. Sparking new partnerships and networking between afterschool programs and local/regional ecosystems
5. Raising awareness of afterschool's impact on education, workforce and entrepreneurial development.

Micro-grant projects can draw upon curriculum, training, technical assistance, and networking through MASN's Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative. Grantees have access to nationally-recognized providers of resources for youth entrepreneurship education: Young Entrepreneur Institute and VentureLab. These partners are working with MASN and other State Afterschool Networks around the nation to expand entrepreneurship afterschool. Projects can also utilize partnerships, curriculum and resources from other youth-serving organizations, such as 4-H, Junior Achievement, or Scouts. Projects should foster new partnerships with community and/or regional organizations, and show potential to be sustained over time.

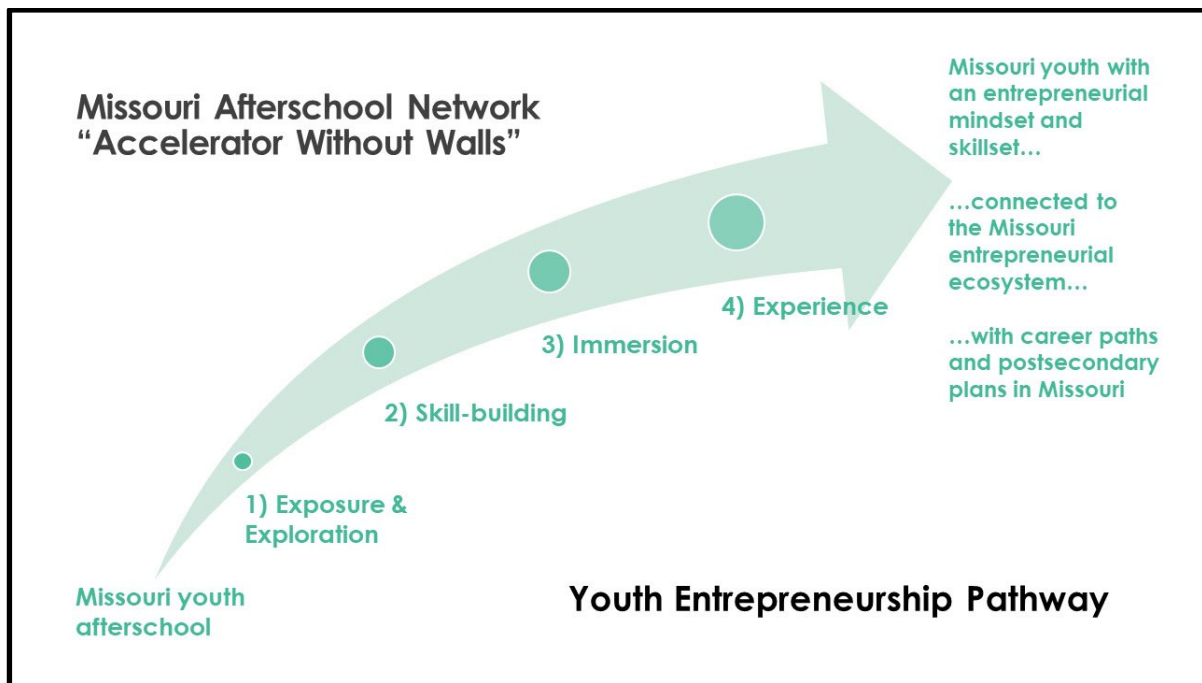
Targeted Students

The target audience for projects are middle and high school students, grades 6-12. Projects should specifically reach female, minority, and/or rural students from communities with population under 50,000 – groups that are under-represented among entrepreneurs.

Youth Entrepreneurship Pathway

Projects will provide activities and learning experiences that start and move middle and high school students further along a youth entrepreneurship pathway (see Pathway diagram below). Projects will specifically involve activities that move students from Exposure/Exploration and Skill-Building for entrepreneurship to:

- **Immersion** – initial connections and student interactions with peers and adult entrepreneurs; students build awareness of resources and opportunities and form relationships beyond afterschool programs; students recognize their community values them and their entrepreneurial ideas and abilities; students identify a specific idea or interest, recognize the value of a team, understand the role of mentors and advisors, and learn about outside programs and opportunities.
- **Experience** – further connections and students working directly with adult entrepreneurs and local businesses or organizations; students utilizing resources and opportunities to deepen relationships beyond the program; students gaining firsthand experience from the community to apply toward their entrepreneurial ideas and goals; students pursuing a specific idea and interest, mobilizing a team of support, working with a mentor or advisor, and participating in outside programs and opportunities for entrepreneurs.



Micro-Grant Awards

Between 6 and 10 micro-grants (stipends) of up to \$2,000 will be awarded to Missouri afterschool programs under the second round. Round 3 projects will focus on Youth Entrepreneurship Pathway components of immersion and experience, connecting students with the community, and extending opportunities for students to gain experience learning by doing.

Projects should imaginatively and flexibly meet the needs of students, families, programs and communities. In-person, virtual, and hybrid programming, and other creative methods of safely engaging students over the summer, or during the 2022-2023 school year are encouraged.

Proposed activities might include any of the following: fields trips or tours linking students with area entrepreneurs or campus entrepreneurial programs, consultations with local professionals around student business ideas, youth selling experiences, entrepreneur-focused job shadowing, micro-internships, mentoring and advising students on microbusiness startups, or similar activities.

Programs are encouraged to propose and build local/regional partnerships, such as with schools, youth-serving organizations, civic associations, libraries, career centers, chambers of commerce, business incubators, banks, small business development centers, economic development organizations, community colleges, and/or University of Missouri campuses.

Programs are encouraged to propose use of tools, curriculum and resources available through the Young Entrepreneur Institute, VentureLab, and other providers through MASN's Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative, or other Missouri-based providers. For resources to support entrepreneurship projects, please visit <https://moafterschool.org/entrep/>.

Due Date for Applications

The application period for Round 3 micro-grants is open March 1-April 30, 2022. Funded sites will be notified by May 15 and projects can begin as early as June 1, 2022.

Expectations of Funded Programs

Selected afterschool grantees will receive up to a \$2,000 stipend for direct support of entrepreneurship education projects. Projects will be finished by Dec 15, 2022. Grantees will become part of MASN's Entrepreneurship Professional Learning Community (PLC) with other funded programs, and agree to participate in conference calls every other month for networking, updates, and technical assistance. Grantees agree to participate in project-related evaluation and complete a brief final report by Dec 31, 2022. Grantees will ensure project sponsorship is credited to the Missouri Afterschool Network and the Charles S. Mott Foundation. Grantees may be asked to share results on webinars or during conference presentations for afterschool audiences.

Informational Sessions and Online Application

Join in an informational session with MASN Staff and representatives from Young Entrepreneur Institute (YEI) and VentureLab to receive more information about the Micro-Grants Round 3. Informational session times and online micro-grant application link will be accessible starting Monday, March 1.

Ready to apply? To access the application, click on...

[Entrepreneurship Micro-Grant Application](#)

For questions or more information, please email abanks@missouri.edu or cowsertm@missouri.edu.

Thank you!