2023 Make a Change Grant
Funding to support the use of ADI Instructional Materials

ARGUMENT-DRIVEN INQUIRY.

Request for Proposals

Overview

The **2023 Make a Change Grant** initiative, which is sponsored by Argument-Driven Inquiry, provides organizations with funding to support the adoption and subsequent use of ADI instructional materials. Argument-Driven Inquiry is looking to fund up to **ten (10)**, three (3)- or four (4)-year projects that will not only initiate a major change in the teaching and learning of science, mathematics, or engineering that takes place in a district or school but will also establish an infrastructure that will sustain the changes made after the projects ends. Project proposals are due on 2/17/2023 and the award announcements will be made on March 15, 2023. All projects will begin on July 1, 2023. The maximum amount that can be requested from the **2023 Make a Change Grant** initiative to support a project is $75,000.

Eligibility

Any school district or individual school located in the U.S. is eligible to apply for a **2023 Make a Change Grant** to fund a project. However, in keeping with the name and spirit of this initiative, organizations that propose a project that will support the adoption and subsequent use of ADI instructional materials in a district or school that has not used ADI instructional materials at all prior to July 1, 2023 or want to start using them in a different subject area (e.g., district has been using them in science but now wants to expand to math) will be given funding priority over an organization that is just looking to expand the use of instructional materials to other grade bands (e.g., using materials in middle school and now wants to expand to high school biology). If you and other teachers in your school or district have wanted to start using ADI instructional materials but have not been able to start due to a lack of funding or other resources, applying for a **2023 Make a Change Grant** is a perfect way to make this change happen.

Project Requirements

Projects that will receive funding through the **2023 Make a Change Grant** initiative will include, at the minimum, the following **10 key features**:

1. A plan to initiate and sustain a meaningful change in the teaching and learning of science, mathematics, or engineering throughout a district or multiple schools.

2. A sequence of project activities that spans over a period of three or four years. The first two years should focus on building capacity and expertise with the use of ADI instructional materials. The last one or two years should focus on developing infrastructure for long term sustainably, further adoption, and dissemination of lesson learned during the project.

3. A project team that consists of a diverse team of educators with varied experiences and expertise in project management, educational leadership, teaching, assessment, professional learning, and deducing the needs of students.

4. Meaningful use of ADI instructional materials by teachers in a specific context (e.g., at least six investigations in school year by all teachers who teach Algebra).

5. A way to ensure teachers have access to ADI Instructional materials during and

after the project ends.

6. Professional learning for teachers about how to use ADI instructional materials and ways to promote and support student learning when using these materials.

7. A focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the project.

8. A meaningful evaluation of the impact of the project on teaching and learning within the organization.

9. A plan to disseminate lessons learned from the project.

10. A plan for fulfilling all project reporting requirements and data collection needs.

Evaluation of Project Impacts

The project team must, throughout the project, evaluate the impact of project activities on an aspect of (1) teacher thinking or practice and (2) student learning (e.g., by documenting changes in attitudes, identity, scores on assessments given multiple times) or overall achievement (e.g., be documenting improvements in course grades, standardized test scores, graduation rates, enrollment in courses or programs) that matters to your organization.

Reporting Requirements

The project team must complete and submit three reports to Argument-Driven Inquiry by June 1st for each year of their project. These reports include (1) project activities, (2) project expenditures, and (3) project impacts. In addition, a member of the project team must attend four project cohort meetings each year. These meetings will be held virtually (Zoom or Google Meet) on the last Thursday of each quarter. Project teams will be provided with templates and directions for filling out each of the reports at one of these cohort meetings.

Budget

The total amount of funding requested to support a project may not exceed **$75,000 dollars** and the funding from the *2023 Make a Change Grant* must be less than 80% of the total project budget. The remaining 20% of funding for the project must be contributed by the organization to help establish an infrastructure in a district or school that will sustain the changes that were initiated by the project once the funding from the grant runs out. District or school contributions can be provided in kind (as a way cover the cost of substitutes for participating teachers, participant stipends, or a venue for a professional learning event) throughout the project or used to purchase ADI products and services at a discounted rate in years 3 and 4 to help sustain the changes that were implemented.

Limits on the Use of Grant Funds

1. Funding from the *2023 Make a Change Grant* can only be used to purchase (a) subscriptions to the ADI Learning Hub, (b) ADI products (such as workshop supplies, classroom supplies, or kits), and (c) ADI services such as a workshop, on-site facilitator institute, or facilitator institute registration, and (d) travel for project team members.

2. Funds from the *Make a Change Grant* can only be spent in the first two years of the project. Any remaining project expenditures (such as learning hub

subscriptions and travel to conferences) must be paid for by the organization.

3. No more than 10% of **Make a Change Grant** funds can be spent on travel for members of the organization to attend Argument-Driven Inquiry endorsed events.

4. No more that 60% of **Make a Change Grant** funds can be spent in the first year of the project.

5. The remaining 40% minimum, and any other residual amounts of the **Make a Change Grant** funds from the first year, must be spent by the end of the second year or they are forfeited.

6. The 20% minimum of the project budget contributed by the organization must be spent by the end of the final project year (e.g., year 3 or year 4 if applicable). Spending towards the organization's required 20% contribution must begin in year 2 of the project and continue for the remaining project duration until the required contribution minimum is reached.

Timeline
The key proposal and project dates are:

1. Requestion for Proposal Released: December 5, 2022
2. 2023 Make a Change Grant Webinar: January 10, 2023
3. Intent to Submit a Proposal Form Due: January 20, 2023, by 5:00 pm central
4. Proposal Packages Due: February 24, 2023, by 5:00 pm central
5. Projects Selected for Funding: March 15, 2023
6. Projects Begin: July 1, 2023
7. Y1 Reports due: June 1, 2024
8. Y1 Ends: June 30, 2024
9. Y2 Begins: July 1, 2024
10. Y2 Reports due: June 1, 2025
11. Y2 Ends: June 30, 2025
12. Y3 Begins: July 1, 2025
13. Y3 Reports due: June 1, 2026
14. Y3 Ends: June 30, 2026
15. Y4 Begins: July 1, 2026 (if applicable)
16. Y4 Reports Due: June 1, 2027 (if applicable)
17. Y4 Ends: June 30, 2027 (if applicable)

Project Proposal Package Components
A. Project Title Page
Fill out the document called, "**A. 2023 Make a Change Project Title Page**". This document will enable you to provide the key information about your organization and an abstract for your

project. Once finished, include it as the first section of your entire project proposal package.

B. Project Summary

Fill out the document called, "**B. 2023 Make a Change Project Summary**". This document will enable you to outline the key features of your project. Once finished, convert the file to a pdf and include it as the second section of your entire project proposal package.

C. Project Budget

Fill out the document called, "**C. 2023 Make a Change Project Budget**". This document will enable you to share how your team plans to use grant funds during the project. It will also enable you to indicate how your team plans to use the funds from your organization during the project. Once finished, convert each of the tabs with budget information to a pdf (be sure to click on "scale to fit") and include the pdf of each tab as the third section of your entire project proposal package. The project budget section should include a budget summary page and a detailed budget for each year of the project (3 or 4 years depending on the project).

D. Roles, Responsibilities, and Commitment of Project Team Members

Fill out the document called, "**D. 2023 Make a Change Project Roles Responsibilities and Commitment of Project Team Members**". This document includes a table that will enable you to outline the who will be responsible for the different activities during the project. Once finished, convert the file to a pdf and include it as the fourth section of your entire project proposal package.

E. Organization Commitment to Support the Project

Fill out the document called, "**E. 2023 Make a Change Organization Commitment to the Project**". This document will enable you to show which individuals in your organization (outside of the project team) know about the proposed project and agree to support it if it is selected for funding. The individuals you include in this document should have a leadership or supervisory role in the organization and have control of one or more budget lines. Once finished, include it as the fifth, and final, section of your entire project proposal package.

Submission Process

To respond to this request for proposal, please fill out this intent to submit a proposal form by 5:00 pm central on 1/20/2023. We will then send the proposal submission package to the team lead on 1/24/2023. The team lead can then submit the completed proposal submission package as a single PDF that includes all five components described above via this submission form before 5:00 pm central time on February 24, 2023.

Questions

Please plan to attend the **2023 Make a Change Grant Webinar** on January 10, 2023, from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm central time to learn more about the initiative, the proposal process, and participate in the Q&A session. All questions about the *2023 Make a Change Grant* initiative, proposal questions, or project ideas can be directed to Tori Nickerson at tori@argumentdriveninquiry.com.