**Go To:** [**www.naturalforces.org**](http://www.naturalforces.org)

**GRANTS**

**General Information:**

**Educational Services Consortium (ESC) is a not for profit 501 C 3 educational foundation (EIN 23-7318045) and has operated continuously since 1973. ESC is managed by an all-volunteer staff of retired teachers, school leaders, and professors.**

**ESC offers all programs at cost or below cost (grants) based on tax deductible donations and gifts.**

**Grants: 29 Set of On Tour Paintings and Supporting Materials (see On Tour Flyer)**

**ESC offers 2 types of Grants:**

1. Matching 60/40 Grants

$6,950.00 – Cost of On Tour Program

 - $ 4,170.00 – Minus 60% Grant

 $ 2,780.00 – School pays 40% of Original Cost

2. Donor Sponsored Donation Grants (100% free to recipients)

Donation Grants are offered based on timely donations. If a school or organization submits a Matching Grant Application there is a chance (small but possible), they will be upgraded to a Donation Grant (100% free) based on an assessment of their application and available funds.

ESC can never be sure of the amount or frequency of donations, thus the caution. Matching Grants are available. See application submission dates.

**Questions (Q.) and Answers (A.)**

**Q.** Please identify the STEAM On Tour Art Infusion Programs available for grants?

**A.** The following 2 programs are available for grants:

1. 29 Painting Framed Set of the STEAM On Tour with Program Materials

2. 5 Painting Framed Set of the Black Artist Supplement

**Q.** Is the application process simple?

**A.** Yes**, ESC’s** all volunteer staff is made up of retired teachers, school leaders and professors. ESC lives by the KISS Principle (Keep It Short & Simple). The two-page application (including directions is short and simple.

**Q.** I noticed ESC offers their programs at or below cost. How does that work?

**A**. ESC is a 501 C 3 not for profit education foundation (EIN 23-7318045) operating since 1973. Donors make gifts which are tax deductible. ESC in turn can offer grants and high-quality STEAM On Tour art programs at very reasonable costs (at or below cost).

Q. Is it true ESC tries to work with business partners and community leaders to support the STEAM On Tour Art Infusion Programs?

A. Yes, when a school purchases one of the STEAM On Art Infusion Programs the school is encouraged, on a voluntary basis, to share the contact information of the school’s business partner or school patron. ESC in turn makes a contact asking the potential donor if they would like to make a tax deductible gift to ESC. If a gift is made the cost to the school is reduced by the amount of the gift, a win-win. If the gift is very, very generous and exceeds the cost of the program the extra funds become part of the monies available for both types of grants noted above. The idea? Pass it on.

**Q.** If a business partner or patron makes a tax deductible gift are they recognized?

**A.** Yes, in addition to what the school may do every framed set comes with a very nice plaque noting the gift.

**Q.** When may we apply for the grants?

**A.** Both grants are available in the Fall and Spring Semesters. The application time lines are as follows:

**Fall Semester:** Opens first Monday of September.

 Closes last Friday of November.

**Spring Semester:** Opens first Monday of February

 Closes last Friday of April

**Q.** Is it true grants are awarded every 2 weeks during the open application period as long a grant funds are available?

**A** Yes, that is correct. A select committee meets every two weeks. If the application is approved by the committee the grant is rewarded immediately. Thus, it is wise to apply asap.

In addition to the need expressed and the perceived worthiness of the application in some ways the grants operate on a first come, first served basis.

**Q.** What is thecost of each of the 2 Programs eligible for the two types of grants Matching Grants (50%/50% donor sponsored cost sharing grants) and Donor Sponsored Grants (100% Free to recipients)?

**A.** Response as follows:

1. 29 Painting Framed Set of the STEAM On Tour Art Infusion Program at cost: $5,750.00. The cost includes shipping and handling within the continental USA.

2. 5 Painting Framed Set of the Black Artist Supplement at cost: $1,050.00. The cost includes shipping and handling within the continental USA.

**Q.** May a school or parent group apply for both types of grants?

**A.** Yes, with this caveat. It is possible but unlikely a school or parent will be approved for more than one grant. It depends on the level of donations and rationale for the request. The select committee will decide.

**Q.** Is there an easy way to review what is included with each Program?

**A.** Yes, go to the naturalforces.org web site and see STEAM/STEM On Tour.

**Q.** How many grants are available each Semester?

A. It varies. The number is dependent on donations received from business partners, school patrons and others. ESC intends to offer minimally 20 Matching Grants and 2 Donor Grants each Semester. It is hoped this number will increase each Semester. Again, donation driven.

**Q.** Does ESC offer contact information on Pilot schools?

**A**. Yes, send an mail via stem2steamart@gmail.com and a list of Pilot schools will be shared.

**Q.** How do I submit my application?

**A.** See the two page application below. Fill out the application, place it in a file and send to: stem2steamart@gmail.com in subject line: Grant Application.

**Q.** How do I access a copy of the grant application?

**A.** Open the file below. Fill in your information, respond to the questions and submit your completed application in an e-mail noted above.