

Actions 

Western Digital[®]

✓ Success! Thank you for your submission.



This application was completed on **2022-07-14 22:07:01 UTC** and is now read-only.



Western Digital Grants Program

At Western Digital, we care! We prioritize giving back and responding to the needs of our communities, and we believe that more can be achieved when we do it together! Our philanthropic programs aim to make a significant impact by focusing our efforts. Emphasis is placed on STEM Education for underrepresented and underserved youth; hunger relief; and environmental issues.

Before submitting an application, please review our Giving Guidelines [🔗](https://www.westerndigital.com/company/corporate-responsibility/philanthropy)
(<https://www.westerndigital.com/company/corporate-responsibility/philanthropy>).

If you have any questions, you may reach out to Western Digital at
GlobalGivingandDoing@wdc.com (<mailto:GlobalGivingandDoing@wdc.com>)

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within 3 months of the application closing date.

Please select the type of grant you are applying for:

- ☒ U.S. Community Grant - Open to nonprofit organizations and public schools based in the United States.
- ☐ Global Grant - Currently open to nonprofit/nongovernmental organizations based in India, Israel, Malaysia, and Thailand.
- ☐ Mini-Grant - Open to nonprofit organizations and public schools based in the United States.

Eligibility Criteria

Let's make sure you're in the right place. Start by answering these basic eligibility questions.

Please indicate the focus area that best describes the primary work of your organization.

STEM Education

Is your organization located in the United States of America?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please indicate the county in which your program provides services.

El Paso County, CO

Is your organization a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in good standing with the US IRS?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Have you received three years of consecutive funding from Western Digital?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ I'm not sure

Would you consider your organization to be any of the following?

A political, labor, religious or fraternal organization

A Western Digital customer or other business partner

A grant-making Foundation

A private educational institution

☐ Yes

☒ No

Is this request to support any of the following?

Religious purposes, except secular programs provided by faith-based organizations that are open to any person, regardless of their religious beliefs and without the requirement of a belief in a specific faith to receive services.

A sports group or team

An individual

An organization that discriminates on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, or national origin

☐ Yes

☒ No

Contact

Contact Information

Are you the primary contact for this application?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please provide **your** contact details below

Salutation (optional)

Preferred Pronoun (optional)

First name

Last name

Title

Phone number

Email

Organization Details

Organization Details

COOL SCIENCE COMPANY

P.O. Box 50015
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80949
141845037

Please provide a brief description of your organization.

Cool Science provides interactive STEM education primarily to elementary and middle school children through programs delivered at schools, libraries, special events such as festivals (including our own Cool Science Festival and Carnival Day at UCCS each year in October), and other custom programs.

Does your organization/agency have opportunities for corporate volunteering?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please explain (500 characters)

We are always looking for corporate volunteers (working and retired) throughout the year for program delivery and support. Our programs are always led by a real scientist, engineer or educator, and volunteers with corporate experience are integral to our success.

Is your organization governed or managed by a board of directors, council or committee?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please attach a list of your governing board, council or committee members.

Cool Science 2022 Board of Directors.pdf (<https://forms.benevity.org/api/upload/degUoDAdTt>)
71.76 kB

Please upload a list of current corporate sponsors.

Cool Science Sponsors.pdf (<https://forms.benevity.org/api/upload/degUoDAdTt>)
27.32 kB

What is your organization's annual operating budget?**Please upload your organizations most recent audited financial report:**21X_COOLSCIENCE_V1_ENTIRE RETURN 2021 Form 990.pdf (<https://forms.benevity.org/api/upload/TOUWKH0>)
268.29 kB

For Public Schools Only: please submit a project budget in lieu of financial statements

Please upload your organizations most current organizational budget:Cool Science Budget 2022.pdf (<https://forms.benevity.org/api/upload/TOUWKH0>)
134.42 kB

Please provide your organization's website and social media information (optional).

Organization website**Facebook page****LinkedIn page****Instagram profile****Twitter profile****Please provide other social networking profiles your organization uses.**

Request Details

What is the name of your program?

Cool Science Hands-on STEM

Please share the grant amount you are requesting. (Western Digital Community Grants typically range between \$7,500 - \$20,000)

\$20,000

Please tell us about your program goals and/or how the funding request will contribute to your general operating support needs. This could include major components, duration, scope, participant demographics, etc. (1500 character limit)

At a time when the United States is facing critical shortages of scientists, engineers, and technically savvy workers, studies have shown that we're also falling behind the rest of the industrialized world in educating our children with the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills necessary to fill those shortages. A major cause of this problem lies with long standing budget cuts to K-12th education, which has led to many schools, particularly at the elementary level and in underserved communities, offering little or no hands-on STEM education at all. Making matters worse, schools are currently facing significant staffing issues (largely due to the recent pandemic), and many K-5th teachers in particular have inadequate science background and are intimidated by teaching STEM concepts. Without this exposure at such a critical time in their development, many students innate curiosity is not encouraged and they will be much less likely to choose the courses in high school that are necessary to prepare them for college and ultimately STEM careers. Support from corporations and foundations allows us to provide hundreds of fun and engaging hands-on STEM programs to schools and libraries each year, led by real scientists and engineers who also serve as role models, to fill this critical need regardless of their ability to pay for them.

Please provide a thorough explanation of how the requested funds would be utilized. (1500 character limit)

In our 20 years of continuous operation Cool Science has never turned away any school because they could not pay the cost of our programs. While we do encourage schools and libraries to pay what they can, the generous contributions we receive from corporate and foundation donors is critical to providing this supplemental financial support. The requested funds will also help us purchase new equipment and materials to expand our programs, maintain a "lending library" of equipment that teachers may borrow for use in their classrooms and create "take home kits" for students, particularly in underserved and rural communities.

In addition to our school and library programs throughout the year the funds requested will also help support our annual multi-day Colorado Springs Cool Science Festival each fall, offering more than 60 fun and educational special events hosted by various local organizations, designed to engage all ages from the community in the wonders of STEM. The signature event is our huge Cool Science Carnival Day at UCCS, a completely free STEM extravaganza for >5000 kids and families and featuring >100 exciting science demonstration shows, performances, workshops, lab tours and hands-on activity stations presented by Cool Science along with dozens of community partners. In addition to presenting Carnival Day free for everyone, we also work with several underserved schools to provide free transportation and chaperones so that their students may also attend.

Please upload a budget specific to the program for which funds are being requested.



Cool Science Budget 2022.pdf (<https://forms.benevity.org/api/upload/aKFfSURt>)
134.42 kB

Do you have a method of tracking and measuring the success of this program. (If funded, you will be required to provide a follow-up evaluation of the program in the form of a Grant Impact Report. Requests for future funding from Western Digital may not be considered without the timely submission of this follow-up report.

☒ Yes

☐ No

How many individuals will benefit from this program? (If the program doesn't serve people, please enter 0)

34000

What is the the cost per individual that will be served by this program? (optional)

\$3

Program Demographics

Please select the age range supported by the program (select all that apply)

☐ Ages 0-5☐ Ages 6-12☐ Ages 13-18

Please select the primary audience the program serves

Youth

Please select the primary ethnic group the program serves

N/A

Does the program primarily serve females?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Non-Applicable

Do more than 50% of the beneficiaries of the program come from an underserved community?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Non-Applicable


Affiliations

Western Digital Affiliations

Has your organization/agency received financial support from Western Digital in the past 4 years?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please state the date and the amount received:

Amount Received	Date
<input type="text" value="\$20,000"/>	<input type="text" value="2021-09-21"/> 

Are any Western Digital employees affiliated with your organization (board memberships, officers, or other positions of influence)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Are any employees, officers, directors or Board Members of your organization relatives or close personal friends with any Western Digital employee?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Are any employees, officers, directors, or Board Members of your organization in a position to influence any current or future Western Digital business?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Are there any other potential or apparent conflicts of interest between your organization and Western Digital?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Has your organization been fined or sanctioned for any bribery, tax evasion or other corruption offence in any jurisdiction in the last 10 years?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are any members of your Board of Directors, company officers, or managers within your organization an employee of a government office or related to a government official in any country?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Agreement

Almost Done!

First, here's some information about our grant review process.

What's Next?

Once the application is submitted, you will receive an email notification confirming receipt. Following our committee review, we'll let you know if your request has been approved or declined, provided no additional information is required within 3 months of the application closing date.

Impact Reporting

If funded, you will be requested to provide a follow-up evaluation of the program in the form of a Grant Impact Report. Requests for future funding from Western Digital may not be considered without the timely submission of the Grant Impact Report.

Agreement

By clicking "I Agree" and providing your electronic signature below, you are certifying that you are an authorized representative of the organization seeking funding through this Grant Application. Your electronic signature certifies that you agree to the terms, conditions and limitations of the Western Digital Community Grants program, as outlined in the program guidelines, available by clicking here (<https://www.westerndigital.com/company/corporate-responsibility/philanthropy>). In addition this signature confirms that the organization: is an IRS approved 501(c)(3) or public school and is compliant with both USA PATRIOT Act and U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) regulations.

☒ I agree to the above.

Electronic Signature

Marc Straub