CALL FOR PROPOSALS
DUE March 20, 2015

Van Shelhamer Memorial Educational Scholarships
K-12 Education Applications for Two $1,000 Grant Awards

The Montana Association of Geographic Information Professionals (MAGIP) is accepting requests for two $1,000 grants to support the development and use of geographic location-based technologies, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS), or Remote Sensing in K-12 classrooms. Eligible projects include curriculum development, training for teachers, and purchase of equipment or software that will enhance geographic instruction.

Up to two grants will be awarded on a competitive basis by the MAGIP Education Committee. One of the primary missions of MAGIP is geospatial education, and the Association represents GIS professionals throughout Montana. Every other year MAGIP hosts the Intermountain GIS Conference, which generally has over 400 professionals in attendance.

ELIGIBLE PROPOSALS
Anyone in Montana is eligible and encouraged to apply. We strongly encourage teachers, retired educators or students, with sponsored and involved teacher participation, to submit a proposal.

The proposed use must fit within the following scope.
The proposed educational application must contribute to furthering the use of GIS in the K-12 classroom. Appropriate proposals may include, but are not limited to, curriculum development, tools for location-based applications, or geographic training opportunities that will enhance the applicant’s ability to deliver quality training to K-12 students.

An advisory committee will be appointed by the MAGIP Education Committee to assist the successful grantee(s) and review progress. This committee can direct the grantee to GIS resources such as GIS professionals in their community who can offer assistance.

DEADLINES
Proposals must be no longer than 5 pages. Single page letters of support may be attached to the proposal, and will not count as part of the proposal page limit. Proposals are due March 1, 2015. Send one original hardcopy, and one digital copy via email to the following address:
Van Shelhamer Memorial
Educational Scholarships

℅ Robert Ahl, PhD Chair Education Committee
Missoula Technology and Development Center
5785 West Broadway
Missoula, MT 59808
magip.mt+educ@gmail.com

EVALUATION PROCESS

Funding for the MAGIP Van Shelhamer Memorial Educational Scholarships is competitive. The MAGIP Educational Grant Subcommittee will evaluate the proposals and select the finalists. The subcommittee will consider the following evaluation factors:

1. Completeness and clarity of the project proposal
2. Relevance of the proposal to the objectives defined in the call for proposals
3. Knowledge and technical experience of the project leader(s) in their ability to carry out the project
4. Quality of proposed project and probability of success
5. Efficiency and cost effectiveness

The selected proposals will be announced by May 1, 2015. The grantees have one year from award to complete the project. The grant funds will be distributed according to the grant activities. The Education Committee will confer with the grantee to review progress, and, if necessary, provide the recipient with geospatial assistance. Accredited teachers may choose to use a portion of the funds to cover tuition costs if the primary purpose of the credits is directed toward completion of the project.

The MAGIP Educational Grant Subcommittee may request that a presentation by the successful grantees be made at the 2015 MAGIP Spring Meeting, May 12-14 in Miles City to showcase successful statewide GIS projects. Additional funding for travel may be available at that time.
GRANT APPLICATION FORMAT

Please limit proposal to 5 pages or less

Introduction: Please provide a brief overview of the proposed project. In your description please include the overall scope and objectives of the proposal.

Justification: Please explain how you became aware of the grant opportunity, and why you are interested in receiving the grant and working on the proposed project.

Objectives: Please provide a clear description of the expected project results, and how you expect to obtain them.

Procedure: Please discuss the methods that will be used to achieve the stated objectives of the project. Additionally, please describe the location of the work, facilities, and necessary and available resources.

Timeline (between May 1, 2015 and April 30, 2016): Please indicate the expected start and end dates of the project, and define appropriate milestones.

Personnel: Please identify the primary individual(s) proposed to complete the project. A short description of their qualifications would be appropriate. Also, identify the primary contact person for the project, and provide complete contact information for this individual.

Cooperation and Resources: Please provide a statement listing any other individuals, institutions or agencies expected to cooperate formally or informally on the project.

Budget: Proposed budgets should detail costs and include the following categories when applicable: salaries, equipment, supplies, travel, communications, and contractual arrangements.