

## **Field Trip Funds/Mini Grants**

### **Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area Field Trip Program – Land/Water/Ag**

- Will pay up to 75% of the transportation costs to visit any of the 37 designated Heritage Sites or Farms. Annual. Opens August 1 until all funds are gone.
- The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium and Mathias Ham Historic Site are both designated Silos Sites.

### **Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation – Agricultural**

- Grants up to \$200 to support the integration of agriculture into regular classroom instruction or after-school programs with an academic focus. Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher Supplement Grants are designed to initiate new projects or expand existing projects that promote agriculture literacy in Iowa. Grants can be used to fund innovative lessons, activities, classroom resources, guest speakers, outreach programs, field trips and other projects.
- The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium offers agricultural (land/water) interpretation.

### **Iowa History Center at Simpson College Field Trip Grants – History**

- Iowa History Field Trip grants focus primarily on grades 3-10 to provide students with an opportunity to study Iowa History in museums, living history farms, state capitol, and historic sites throughout the state. Funding for each field trip covers student tuition cost and may include transportation, up to a maximum grant of \$500.
- The National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium is a History Museum!

### **Walmart Spark Good Local Grants – Your School Needs to be the Applicant**

- Your local Walmart offers grant awards to **School**: All K-12 public or nonprofit private schools, charter schools, community/junior colleges, state/private colleges, or universities. Institutions must have a NCES (National Center for Education Statistics) number or 501c3 tax status and be verified with Deed. Offered annually. Range: \$250 to \$5,000.
- Applications are accepted and reviewed on a quarterly basis:
  - Mar. 10 – Apr. 15, 2025
  - May 1– Jul. 15, 2025
  - Aug. 1 – Oct. 15, 2025
  - Nov. 3 – Dec. 31, 2025

## **Other Funding Ideas:**

- Local businesses or corporations: Contacting local businesses that align with your field trip's focus : Science, History, Humanities, Conservation, Art, ect. may yield support.
- The bank or credit union serving that your school or district banks at
- Local gas stations, mini markets, and stores
- Area companies that will need (STEM) workers in the future
- Parent Teacher associations, groups, individuals and organizations

- Ask your friends if their company offers an Employee Match Program. If they do, you can 1) solicit donations from individual donors and ; 2) the donor then submits their match request to their company (who will match the employee's donation, typically a 1 to 1 match. Ex: Person donates \$50 — Company donates \$50.) Check with your donors who the program will match (typically schools, non-profits, charitable organizations, so make sure you organize this with/through your school, as programs are not likely to match donations to an individual (teacher or classroom)).

#### **DonorsChoose – Crowdfunding**

- A crowdfunding platform where teachers can post project requests, including field trips, for individuals and corporations to fund.

#### **Alternative Transportation Ideas – Ask for an in-kind donation or reduced cost**

- Trolleys of Dubuque
- Charter Bus
- Does your School have Mini Bus than you can drive?
- Dream Center has a fleet of buses (Dubuque, IA)
- Bible Buses from local churches may help?
- Ask a local hotel to donate shuttle bus service