

## Diverse Books Initiative Scholarship and Seed Grant Application

To stimulate the development of innovative school inclusion, the company of BMW Consulting LLC will offer a limited number of Seed Grants to local schools interested in developing making their school library more inclusive and diverse for the 2023-2024 academic year. Schools interested in applying for seed grants must complete and submit the seed grant application via the online application link no later than **August 30, 2023**.

- Applications will be reviewed by the owner and community partners at its Fall 2023 meeting.
- Schools will be notified of the funding status of their application by **September 30th**. Grants to Schools who are selected will be issued for the Fall of 2023-2024 Program Year.
- The funds are not to be used for food nor awarded as individual/combined financial aid to an individual or group. Schools are encouraged to use prominent display areas, whenever possible. If resource personnel or consultants are required, Schools are encouraged to identify professionals whose time can be donated to the school's program to inventory books each school year.
- Schools may receive a Seed Grant for multiple school designations in one year (i.e. Pre-K /HS).
- Schools are only eligible to receive one (1) Seed Grant per year.
- Recipients are required to purchase books written by African American or minority authors.
- Recipients are required to place the BMW Consulting LLC Diverse Books Initiative logo inside each book.

**Listed below are eligible category areas that Schools eligible to apply for:**

### **Pre-K programs**

Offering a one-day or multi session reading workshop series using diverse books geared towards parents, youth, adults, and others interested in improving reading levels of students.

Recommended focus:

- Books related to diversity and inclusion.
- Reviewing and provide reading sessions in a group setting with students.
- Providing contact information and resource links to books purchased if requested by parents.
- Guest author speakers (if possible).

### **Elementary Schools**

Hosting a workshop series with an emphasis on "diverse populations" can offer "special or targeted groups" readings and/or community services that focuses on serving and providing resources to those with the greatest hardship.

- Disadvantaged students

- Students with disabilities
- Students who speak a different language

Offer workshops/speakers focusing on diverse populations to help students and parents prepare and understand the importance of diversity, inclusion, and access. Teach students and parents how to locate books by African American or minority authors.

### **Middle Schools**

Workshop sessions may be developed to focus specifically on diversity, equity, inclusion, and access. With the changing employment landscape, assisting students in understanding underrepresentation is critical to the labor market.

Offering workshops on diversity, equity, inclusion, and access can be beneficial to students and parents.

### **High Schools**

Workshop sessions may be developed to focus specifically on diversity, equity, inclusion, and access. With the changing employment landscape, assisting underrepresented students in understanding the long-term effects of exclusion is critical to society.

Create a book club to discuss books by African American and minority authors. Provide reading guides to aid in conversation.

### **Trio programs and civic programs serving disadvantage, low-income, or disabled students**

Workshop sessions may be developed to focus specifically on diversity, equity, inclusion, and access in the workforce. With the changing employment landscape, assisting underrepresented workers in understanding the long-term effects of exclusion is critical to the labor market and society.

Providing books clubs with books written by African American or minority authors.

In addition to providing assistance in the areas previously mentioned, identified below is other information available and accessible through the Department of Labor's toolkit.

**Eligible Counties include** Counties of Barbour, Bullock, Crenshaw, and Pike

Click [HERE](#) to access the Department of Labor's Toolkit.

Click [HERE](#) to access the Scholarship Finder.

Please return the seed grant applications on or before **August 30, 2023**, by clicking the link [HERE](#).

**Note: Schools can apply every year. Please submit any seed grant application questions to**

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[www.bmwconsulting.org](http://www.bmwconsulting.org)

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\*A \$500 grant will be awarded to 1 Pre-K program, 1 Elementary school, 1 Middle school, and 1 High School library