



National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Denise Doring VanBuren, President General

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE — JeanEllen Hiter Melton, *National Chair*

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2021 Helen Pouch Memorial Fund Classroom Grant Award Judges' Decision Sheet

Please review each application received by your state and rank up to your top ten choices of recipients below. You may consider financial need, the number of students impacted by the funds, overall educational impact of the grant, and any other details you feel are pertinent when making your decision. While DAR members are eligible to apply for this grant, no preference or penalty should be given to a DAR member when considering applications.

Please rank and assign points for your choices as follows:

#1 choice = 10 points

#6-8 choices = 3 points

#2 choice = 8 points

#9-10 choices = 1 point

#3-5 choices = 5 points

1. _____ Points _____

2. _____ Points _____

3. _____ Points _____

4. _____ Points _____

5. _____ Points _____

6. _____ Points _____

7. _____ Points _____

8. _____ Points _____

9. _____ Points _____

10. _____ Points _____

Signature of Judge: _____



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2021 Helen Pouch Memorial Fund Classroom Grant State Chair's Worksheet

Title: _____ **State:** _____

Name: _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone:** _____

Please list your state's grant award recommendations and the number of points received below. List up to the top 15 recommended recipients. In the case of a tie, the applicant ranked higher by the State Junior Membership Chair receives preference. **NEW THIS YEAR: Based on the result of this Worksheet, complete the online State Chairman Selection Form, and upload the full applications of the top three applicants to the National Chair, Junior Membership no later than June 1, 2021. The online form can be found at <http://bit.ly/HPMF2122>**

1. _____ Points _____
2. _____ Points _____
3. _____ Points _____
4. _____ Points _____
5. _____ Points _____
6. _____ Points _____
7. _____ Points _____
8. _____ Points _____
9. _____ Points _____
10. _____ Points _____
11. _____ Points _____
12. _____ Points _____
13. _____ Points _____
14. _____ Points _____
15. _____ Points _____

Process for Awarding Grants:

- Applications for the classroom grants are completed by teachers who are sponsored by their local chapter. A chapter may only sponsor one applicant per year.
- Once the application period has ended (May 1, 2021), the chapter will submit their applicant to the State Chair. The State Chair may establish her own deadline for chapters to submit applicants to the state.
- The State Chair will identify a panel of three judges will review the applications for their state and determine a Winner and Runner-Up. The panel of judges will consist of the State Junior Membership Chair, a Junior Member, and a DAR member who is an educator.
 - The DAR member who is an educator may also be a Junior member.
 - The educator does not have to be a current teacher; she may be retired or working in a different field.
- The State Chair will submit her state's Winner and Runner-Up(s) to the National Vice Chair of Junior Membership Classroom Grants by the designated date.
- The grant is a one-time award and a recipient is ineligible to reapply to ensure the greatest impact possible in our communities.
- If a state does not submit a State Winner (or Runner-Up), the National Chair may award a third grant to a state submitting multiple recommendations. Each state may only be given three total grants in an application cycle. Preference will be given to a state in the same division as the state without a Winner or Runner-Up.
- The application is set up in four pages. All parts must be completed, and real signatures included.
- Assign each application a number for review by judges and record the number on all pages in the application and then remove the cover sheet so that a blind review may be done by the judges.
- Remind judges to look at the merit of the project and the impact the project will have on the DAR Objectives of Historic Preservation, Education, and Patriotism.
- Judges should rank applications in order of preference.

Junior Membership Classroom Grant Timeline:

- **February 15, 2021:** Applications sent to State Junior Membership Chairs to then forward to chapters.
- **February 15 through May 1, 2021:** Application process open to classroom teachers.
- **June 1, 2021:** Deadline for submitting the state winner and runner-up to the National Vice Chair of Junior Membership Classroom Grants via the online State Chairman Selection Form at <http://bit.ly/HPMF2122>
- **June 2021:** Grant winners announced at Continental Congress.
- **No later than September 30, 2021:** Awards mailed to the school of record, addressed to the teacher's attention.
- **December 31, 2021** (or upon completion of the project): Report of project sent the National Vice Chair.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) About the Junior Membership Classroom Grants:

How does this program impact Junior Membership commitment to the DAR Schools?

It doesn't! The Junior Membership Committee and Helen Pouch Memorial Fund have an annual commitment to the DAR Schools. Priority for fundraising is given to the DAR Schools.

How does this program affect the Helen Pouch Memorial Fund National Project?

It doesn't! After our commitment to the DAR Schools, the Junior Membership Committee fulfills our obligation to the adopted National Project for that year prior to accepting grant award applications.

Should a state or chapter do anything to recognize Classroom Grant winners?

Of course! Consider making a ceremonial check presentation to the winners at your state's fall meeting or holding a special ceremony at the recipients' classrooms or at a meeting of the sponsoring DAR chapters. You could also recognize your winners during your State Conference in the spring and allow the teachers to speak about the impact the grant has had on their classroom. Write an article about the project for your state's newsletters. Submit details to the National Junior Membership newsletter, *The Beacon*.

Who is considered a classroom teacher?

A classroom teacher is a teacher in a public or private school system. They can teach a core subject or other group setting classes in grades K-12. Individual programs like speech or occupational therapy are not eligible. The teacher holds a contract for the following school year and can have the application endorsed by a principal, headmaster, or superintendent to verify employment. Home school teachers are not considered classroom teachers. The goal of the classroom grant program is to do the greatest good for the great number of students.

Can a non-regular education teacher apply if they meet the definition of a classroom teacher?

Special education services vary from state to state and it must be clear that the teacher is teaching a classroom of students and not providing pull out service.

- An example of a classroom would be: A reading class is being taught to a group of students by the special education teacher.
- An example of pull-out service (not eligible) would be: a special education teacher working with students on reading for a class that is being taught by another teacher.

Can a classroom grant be used by the school lunch program?

No, grant funds must be used for education setting activities in a classroom.

Can a classroom grant be used by a classroom teacher to invite a guest expert performer/lecturer to come and teach classes in a classroom as a way to extending the learning experience of students?

Yes, this fits the definition of the focus on student learning of the grant program. This activity has a direct benefit to the students' learning.

Can a classroom grant be used by a classroom teacher to take students on an out of school field trip to cover the cost of entry of students to a learning venue?

Yes, this is an activity that is focused on education to help expand the classroom learning experience. This activity has a direct benefit to the students' learning.

Can a classroom grant be used by a classroom teacher to develop/deliver online curriculum?

Yes, virtual learning (as authorized by the respective school district) is an accepted method of bringing the teacher to the virtual classroom. This activity has a direct benefit to the students' learning.

Can a DAR member apply for a grant?

Yes! DAR members who meet the eligibility requirements of classroom teachers may apply for the grant. They should not list their DAR membership as part of their application, as no preference should be given to DAR members when reviewing the applications and grants should be awarded based on the merits of the application alone.

Can my chapter endorse more than one applicant?

No, a chapter may only endorse one application per year. The goal of this grant program is to impact as many children in as many communities as possible. Limiting each chapter to sponsoring just one application per year helps ensure that multiple communities in each state will benefit from these grants. In addition, due to the large number of chapters in some states, and the limited time available to the state judges, limits must be placed to ensure these judges aren't overwhelmed with applications.