

**Best Buy Foundation  
National Partnership Request for Proposals  
September 1, 2017**

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**Best Buy Foundation Ignites Potential through Technology**

For half a century, Best Buy has been a catalyst for the rise of technology as a means to improve virtually every aspect of our lives.

Technology know-how is crucial for young people preparing to enter the job market for the first time. Nearly 80% of jobs over the next decade will require tech skills. We are committed to giving underserved teens hands-on access to the tech education and tools they need to be prepared for the tech-reliant jobs of the future.

We open the door to opportunity with technology training and tools that transform underserved teens from consumers to creators – a new generation of engineers, entrepreneurs, teachers, designers and dreamers.

**National Partner Overview**

As a means to prepare underserved teens for the tech-reliant jobs of the future, the Best Buy Foundation seeks nonprofit partners that generate interest and awareness in tech-related careers; improve access to training, credentialing, and employment; and support tech career progression.

Our goal is to help underserved teens obtain the tech skills and training they need to be prepared for a successful career.

For more information on Best Buy's Community Relations, visit:  
<https://corporate.bestbuy.com/community-relations-overview>.

**Grant Overview**

Best Buy is searching for national organizations with a demonstrated track record for building tech skill proficiency as well as providing career readiness and employment opportunities for underserved teens.

The primary responsibilities of the nonprofit organization include:

- Working with schools and other community-based organizations to build awareness of the program to drive youth participation.
- Ensuring access to teens from underserved communities.
- Enabling participation of Best Buy employees to serve as volunteers.
- Supporting youth outreach, training & curriculum development for Best Buy's signature program - Teen Tech Centers.
- Developing financial and community support to help sustain the program beyond the grant funding from Best Buy.
- Attending quarterly national partner calls to exchange best practice, consider collaboration efforts and share resources.
- Completing an annual report for program evaluation purposes. The report collects information about progress on funding objectives, youth participant demographics, collaborative efforts, volunteer engagement, curriculum and content dissemination, and measured progress on program goals such as increasing youth interest in technology,

improving technology skills, improving professional skills, and increasing awareness of and interest in technology-related careers. Additional requirements may apply such as youth and/or supervisor/employer surveys.

- Driving the partnership by taking initiative to set-up additional meetings with Best Buy staff to ensure grant deliverables are being met.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Best Buy invites national nonprofits that have a fundamental commitment to youth, ages 13-21, to apply for funding. Minimum eligibility criteria include:

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations with a proven track record of serving youth ages 13-21.
- National nonprofit organizations with multiple locations nationwide to allow for current or future programming in a variety of cities across the country.
- Demonstrated track record in engaging youth at the local level who have been disconnected from education and careers.
- Opportunities for local Best Buy employees to participate in the program as volunteers. Program must operate within 25 miles of a Best Buy store or other Best Buy center of operations (e.g., warehouse, corporate headquarters, etc.). To find store locations, visit [www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com) and click on "Store Locator."
- Willingness to participate in meetings with other Best Buy national partners to share best practice and potentially collaborate in combined programming efforts (when feasible).
- Commitment to diversity and inclusion.
- Ability to conduct programming in at least 1-5 cities across the country. Preferred locations include the locations of our Best Buy Teen Tech Centers, including but not limited to: Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Jersey City/NYC, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Nashville, New Orleans, Oakland, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, San Antonio, San Diego, Seattle and Washington D.C.
- Desired programs will have some of the following components:
  - Rigorous tech-related curriculum, mentorship, and soft-/hard-skills training for youth over a 9-12-month period;
  - Align training with regional labor market needs to ensure youth gain relevant skills and engage youth in work-based learning opportunities (i.e. internships, apprenticeships)
  - Pathways from high school to post-secondary/tech-related credentialing programs;
  - Opportunities for dual enrollment/college credits for underserved teens completing high school;
  - General career-readiness training such as resume prep, mock interviews, job shadows, etc.
  - Use technology to develop skills in a wide range of areas: 3D design, graphic design/photography, coding/programming, digital music/audio production, game design, mobile apps, multi-media production, robotics, video/film production, etc.
  - Wraparound supports such as food access, housing, transportation, health services, etc.
- Success metrics will include: developing skills for tech-reliant jobs; achieving a degree or credential with real value in the current labor market, gaining employment with self-supporting wages, and/or having opportunities for further education and career advancement.

**Required Elements of the Proposal: Please include in online submission**

Proposals will be evaluated and competitively ranked by a review committee from Best Buy. The review committee may choose to conduct a site visit or conference call as part of the selection process. The overall comprehensiveness, quality and clarity of the proposal will be taken into consideration.

Please submit proposal online via this link - [www.cybergrants.com/bestbuy/NationalGrantquiz](http://www.cybergrants.com/bestbuy/NationalGrantquiz). Make sure to address each requirement below in the section that corresponds to the online application. The grant will be to support the operation of the program for one-year from date of implementation. Grant recipients will be eligible to apply the following year for funding based on demonstrated success.

**Contact/Organization Information** - General information on proposal contact and organization.

**Proposal Information** - Program title; grant amount requested; program start-/end-date; activities; student progress/tracking; program outcomes including: increased knowledge of technology, increase interest in technology, technology skill development, workforce readiness, formation of mentors, increased awareness of and interest in tech-related careers, increased youth employment, increased likelihood/attainment of high school graduation and college enrollment, increased likelihood of post-secondary degree/certification completion in tech related fields, increased opportunities for further education and career advancement, increased likelihood of internship/apprenticeship/placement/completion in roles utilizing tech skills, increased likelihood of degree or credential with real value in current labor market, increased likelihood of employment with family/self-supporting wages, attainment of internship/apprenticeship in tech related field; Program focus, locations, impact; and volunteer opportunities.

**Demographics Information** - Program youth outreach, ethnicity, gender and ages.

**Finances** - Organization budget, program budget, additional funding sources and funding sustainability plan.

**Authorization** - Diversity and Inclusion/Non-discrimination Policy.

**Proposal Deadlines and Administrative Information**

<b>Grant Awards</b>	Program grants (no general operating) typically range from \$100k to \$350k
<b>Grant Period</b>	Up to one year of funding. Organizations demonstrating success are eligible to apply for future funding in subsequent years
<b>Proposal Due Date</b>	Proposal must be submitted no later than 5:00pm EDT on <b>Sunday, October 1, 2017</b>
<b>Final Submissions</b>	<a href="http://www.cybergrants.com/bestbuy/NationalGrantquiz">www.cybergrants.com/bestbuy/NationalGrantquiz</a>
<b>Proposal Requirements and Information</b>	Proposals must be submitted electronically
<b>Notification Date</b>	<b>January 31, 2018</b>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<a href="https://corporate.bestbuy.com/community-relations-overview/">https://corporate.bestbuy.com/community-relations-overview/</a>
<b>Contact</b>	<a href="mailto:CommunityRelations@BestBuy.com">CommunityRelations@BestBuy.com</a>

**National Partnership RFP Webinar Details**

Best Buy will host a webinar to provide an overview on the National Partnership RFP on Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 2:30-3:30pmCST.

**Join WebEx meeting:**

<https://bby.webex.com/join/william.woodworth>

Call-in number: 1-888-844-9901

Access Code: 8338449#

**Can't join the meeting? [Contact support.](#)**