

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY GRANTS

**CRITERIA & APPLICATION FORM** 

### OVERVIEW

At Virgin Orbit, we are on a mission to make space for everyone. Just as the rockets we build and the satellites we launch are a key part of how we complete that mission, so too are the ways we engage our community, protect our environment, and inspire our neighbors here on planet Earth.

Inspired by our founder and by our sister companies within the Virgin Family, we truly believe that business not only can but must be a force for good in the world. We aim to do so in the following ways:

**WE BOOST EDUCATION**: We engage with students of all ages and backgrounds, building upon the inherent fascination so many of them feel with space exploration to kindle their love for STEM fields and to guide them into STEM careers.

**WE BOOST INCLUSION**: We take action to help make the space industry more welcoming to individuals of all backgrounds.

**WE BOOST COMMUNITY**: We provide modest but meaningful financial grants to deserving organizations and projects in our local communities.

**WE BOOST ACCESS**: We seek every opportunity we can to demonstrate and test solutions that solve space problems.

### ABOUT THIS GRANT PROGRAM

Through this program, we will award a number of grants (up to \$2,500) to organizations, programs and projects that promote STEM and space education in our local communities. Grant recipients can be schools, after school organizations, community organizations, or other types of group, but the grant must be used for a STEM or aerospace related project or projects. Additionally, while the program can occur online or in the physical world, and can have as large a geographic scope as possible, it must positively impact the lives of students located in Southern California, particularly in Los Angeles, Kern, or Orange counties.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Before completing your grant application, please read our funding guidelines carefully. We receive more applications than we can accept, so it is very important that we understand how your project aligns with our specific goals. These guidelines

also help us ensure that all applications are evaluated according to the same criteria and have a fair chance of success.

### WHAT WE FUND

STEM education, with a specific focus on aerospace education

STEM and space related projects and activities

STEM career building activities, with a specific interest in aerospace career building

Community-accessible artwork that is specifically related to aerospace

Activities that promote diversity and inclusion in the aerospace workforce of today or of the future.

### IN PARTICULAR, WE PRIORITIZE PROGRAMS THAT...

Produce measurable results

Use innovative approaches

Promise significant and long-lasting change

Provide a clear and compelling plan to reach and impact the target audience

Do not expect to earn a profit (or any profit earned will be fully reinvested in specific and identifiable charitable efforts)

### WHAT WE DON'T FUND

Our company is made up of five hundred extraordinarily passionate, creative, and purpose-driven individuals. If we championed every cause and donated to every campaign, we be spread so thinly that we'd accomplish nothing except burning ourselves out.

To keep ourselves sane and to keep our efforts impactful, we have to focus; which means that by design, we simply cannot help everyone. This means that even though we recognize them as worthy causes, we do not provide sponsorship or similar contributions to community organizations that aren't focused on STEM (or, in some cases, STEAM) works. Though there are exceptions to every rule, this means that in

the past, we've had to regretfully decline to support art activities such as local symphonies, benefit programs for medical research communities, beach clean-ups, and other wonderful programs.

We implore you not to mistake this for a lack of understanding of the value of such programs. Rather, this is a matter of focusing our contributions to those areas where we are best positioned to do meaningful good.

Finally, we also must respectfully decline to fund the following types of project through this program:

Political campaigns and legislative lobbying efforts

Payment to the grantee or a member of the grantee's family for their time or services

Projects that already have well-established funding sources

Scholarships (we provide these through our scholarship program)

Projects where the primary benefit is to the grantee or to any one individual

Projects that require grant payments via any cash-based payment system e.g. MoneyGram

## **DEADLINES**

Winter Applications (received January 1 – March 20) will be reviewed by April 1. Selections will be communicated via email by April 10, awarding funds to recipients by April 30. We recommend getting Summer program support submitted in this cycle.

**Spring Applications** (received March 20 – May 20) will be reviewed by June 1. Selections will be communicated via email by June 10, awarding funds to recipients by June 30. We recommend getting Fall program support submitted in this cycle.

**Fall Applications** (received September 1 – November 20) will be reviewed by December 1. Selections will be communicated via email, awarding funds to recipients by December 15. We recommend getting Spring program support submitted in this cycle.

# **HOW TO APPLY**

- Please complete the application found on the subsequent pages of this document to the best of your ability.
- Once you have completed the proposal form, save the application pages a PDF and email it to: maja@virginorbit.com, along with any supporting documents that will assist in our understanding and decision making.
- We will review proposals periodically and if yours meets the criteria we will
  move it on to the next steps in the approval process. Please note that we
  might reach out to you for additional information if required during this
  process.
- Feedback will also be provided if your proposal did not meet our criteria or if the project is viable for resubmission.

# **VIRGIN ORBIT COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION**

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF		
Name		
Organization		
Role		
Telephone number		
Email address		
Address		
Project location		
Project title		
Which of these best describes you	☐ Educator	
	□ Not-for-profit	
	□ Other	
TELL US ABOUT YOUR	IDEA	
Project goal & objectives		

Project timeline or timeframe for completion	
Funding required USD (max \$2,500)	
Summaries your project and ensure you address the following	<ul> <li>The opportunity, challenges, issues or needs</li> <li>What are the key challenges and milestones along the way</li> <li>Identify potential risks</li> </ul>
(500 words max)	

Evaluation (250 words max)	<ul> <li>A plan for evaluating the project and long term strategies (if applicable) for sustaining this effort</li> <li>Will you be involved in evaluating this work? If yes, describe how</li> </ul>

Budget and how funds will be spent (500 words max)	<ul> <li>Expected cost for the project</li> <li>List each type of expense you expect for this project</li> <li>List of other organizations from which you are requesting funds for this project if applicable</li> </ul>

Project key stakeholders, providing a brief description of key members in charge of the project

(250 words max)

Describe the potential impact this project will have if successful and what does success look like (and when)?

(250 words max)