



Culturally Responsive High School Entrepreneurship Grant Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the purpose of the culturally responsive high school entrepreneurship grant?

The Cisco corporate-advised fund at Silicon Valley Community Foundation in early 2016 awarded ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation a three-year grant to implement culturally responsive high school entrepreneurship programming with Title I schools and underserved communities in Arizona. ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation (E+I) partners with Engineering Projects in Community Services (EPICS) High and SEED SPOT NEXT programs on this grant.

The purpose of the grant is to create an ecosystem of support for underserved young people in the state who have innovative ideas that aim to make the world a better place. The funding will be used to expand existing local programs that train high school teachers to embed in their curriculum engineering and human-centered design service learning (EPICS High) and social entrepreneurship (SEED SPOT NEXT).

2. Who is the target audience for this grant?

These two programs will expand primarily to Title I and low-income high schools, including but not limited to high schools participating in Cisco Networking Academies.

3. When do teachers get trained on the curriculum?

Teacher trainings for both EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT usually are held during June for the upcoming academic year. Program leaders within EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT determine when the teacher trainings will be and notify ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation as part of our partnership.

4. What type of support do teachers get when participating in these programs?

Teachers at partner schools are provided in-depth curriculum, training and support to teach engineering, business and technology through design-based, service learning in EPICS High and social entrepreneurship programming in SEED SPOT NEXT.

Teachers in both programs receive this professional development training in order to embed the Internet of Things (IoT), multiculturalism, and student success strategies in their teaching.

5. Do teachers get trained by ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation?

No, as part of ASU’s Entrepreneurship + Innovation partnership with these two high school programs, we leave it up to the program leaders in EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT to administer, implement, and execute their programs.

6. What are the benefits of participating with these programs?

Both EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT promote an interdisciplinary approach, utilizing the creativity and expertise of a diverse set of students to develop and implement solutions with real impact. In doing so, students not only develop game-changing solutions to real community problems, but they also hone their skills as engineers and entrepreneurs.

As part of goal outcomes, EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT identify strategic partner high schools and engage in conversations with teachers and school administrators for recruitment of these programs.

During the grant cycle, each program is expected to scale and serve students in Title I and underserved community school districts.

Grant Year	Partner Schools	Estimated number of total students served
Year 1 Fall 2016-spring 2017	5 new partners school launch EPICS High 5 new partner schools launch SEED SPOT NEXT Total: 10 schools	200 students
Year 2 Fall 2017-spring 2018	7 (2 new + 5 existing) launch EPICS High 7 (2 new + 5 existing) launch SEED SPOT NEXT Total: 14 schools	280 students
Year 3 Fall 2018-spring 2019	10 (3 new + 7 existing) launch EPICS High 10 (3 new +7 existing) launch SEED SPOT NEXT Total: 20 schools	400 students

All students who advance to the national SEED SPOT NEXT DEMO DAY and have an Internet of Things (IoT) innovation are eligible to compete for seed funding as part of the Cisco Innovation Challenge category. The Cisco Innovation Challenge awards are \$5,000 for first place; \$3,000 for second place; and \$2,000 for third place.

7. Are there additional resources available to EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT participants?

Yes! Each program provides professional development trainings, mentoring opportunities for students, funding materials and supplies for student projects, and an opportunity for students with an Internet of Things (IoT) solution or innovation to win seed funding through the Cisco Innovation Challenge.

In addition, the Cisco Networking Academies has created a campaign page with these five online computer classes that are available to EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT program students and teachers:

- [Linux Unhatched](#)
- [Intro to Internet of Things \(IoT\)](#)
- [Get Connected](#)
- [Packet Tracer Know How](#)
- [Entrepreneurship](#)

Individuals self-enroll on this link: http://csrinfo.cisconetspace.com/Landing-pages_ASU-Self-Enroll-Course-Campaign.html

8. What schools participate in this grant?

*Indicates new schools supported by grant and brought on that semester/academic year



Year One (Fall 2016 & spring 2017)—5 new partner schools

- *MET Professional Academy
- *Mesa High School
- *Skyline High School
- *Copper Canyon High School
- *Shadow Ridge High School

Other Title One or in Underserved
Communities: ASU Preparatory
Academy—Phoenix
Cesar Chavez Casa Grande
Chandler High
Ironwood Metro Tech
Starshine Academy
TollesonTeen Council

Year Two (Fall 2017 & spring 2018)—7 schools (2 new + 5 existing)

- MET Professional Academy
- Mesa High School
- Copper Canyon High School
- Shadow Ridge High School
- *Maricopa Institute of Technology
- *Camelback High School

Other Title One or in Underserved Communities:
*Phoenix Coding Academy
ASU Preparatory Academy—Phoenix Cesar

Chavez High School
Chandler High School
Ironwood High School
Metro Tech
Millennium High School

Year Three (Fall 2018 & Spring 2019)—10 schools (3 new + 7 existing)



Year One (Fall 2016 & spring 2017)—5 new partner schools

- *ASU Preparatory Academy—Polytechnic
- *ASU Preparatory Academy—Phoenix
- *Phoenix Collegiate Academy
- *North High School
- *Cesar Chavez High School

Year Two (Fall 2017 & spring 2018)—7 schools (2 new + 5 existing)

- *MET Professional Academy
- *Camelback High School
- *City High School in Tucson
- *Empower College Prep High School
- *NFL YET College Prep Academy
- *Westwood High School
- *Pan American Charter School

Year Three (Fall 2018 & Spring 2019)—10 schools (3 new + 7 existing)

9. Who determines what schools participate with EPICS High and/or SEED SPOT NEXT as part of the culturally responsive high school entrepreneurship grant?

ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation (E+I) partners with Engineering Projects in Community Services (EPICS) High and SEED SPOT NEXT programs on this grant.

EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT leadership continues to lead, administer, implement and execute their programs. As part of this grant, the program leaders meet regularly with ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation team members to ensure that grant milestones and outcomes are met.

As part of goal outcomes, it is EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT leadership who identify strategic partner high schools and engages in conversations with teachers and school administrators for recruitment of these programs.

10. If a high school is interested in bringing the EPICS High and/or SEED SPOT NEXT programs to their school, who should they contact?

If a high school is interested in bringing the EPICS High (<http://epics.engineering.asu.edu/epics-high-school/>) program to their school, they are to contact Jen Velez at Jennifer.Velez@asu.edu or at (480) 965- 0100.

If a high school is interested in bringing the SEED SPOT NEXT (<http://www.seedspotnext.org/>) program to their school, they are to contact Gretchen Naugle at gretchen@seedspot.org or at (480) 532-5330.

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12. How do high school Cisco Innovation Challenge winners get their monetary awards?

Cisco Innovation Challenge winners will get an award check mailed to them after completing ASU tax paperwork and forms. The checks are mailed to the address provided on the student's paperwork, therefore, students should include the best contact information. The processing of this paperwork can take up to a month. If students have questions about the status of their award, they can contact the ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation point of contact that EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT leadership work with on these grants.

13. How do high school Cisco Innovation Challenge winners use their awards?

The Cisco Innovation Challenge is an opportunity for high school students with an Internet of Things (IoT) innovation or solution to have the chance to win seed money that can help them start, grow, or launch their business or solution. In the past, students have used their award to:

- Cover the costs for additional venture development or mentorship programming as they continue to work on their idea/solution.
- Pay attorney consultation fees for how to protect their intellectual property.
- Submit a patent application.
- Purchase materials and/or supplies to help them prototype their business idea/solution.
- Complete an entrepreneurship certificate course at a local community college.
- Assist with covering tuition costs at an institution of higher learning where students get additional training and education that can help them continue to work on their idea/solution

This is not an exhaustive list. If students, teachers, or families have questions about the awards, please have them contact the ASU Entrepreneurship + Innovation point of contact that EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT leadership work with on these grants.

14. Do students need a prototype and/or formally established business to compete in the Cisco Innovation Challenge?

No, students with an Internet of Things (IoT) business idea or solution can compete in the Cisco Innovation Challenge without a prototype or formally established business. We encourage high school students to work with their EPICS High and SEED SPOT NEXT teachers and programs to ensure that they are meeting the criteria requirements for their Showcase and DEMO DAY competitions. The Cisco Innovation Challenge is a category award within the EPICS High Showcase and SEED SPOT NEXT DEMO DAY.