

Unconventional Thinking in Teaching

Marathon Oil's Grants for Teachers

Program Overview

At Marathon Oil, unconventional thinking means constantly looking for new ways to solve problems and deliver results. As part of our investment in building stronger communities through education, we want to support teachers who are bringing this same unconventional thinking to the classroom.

That's why we've created the **Unconventional Thinking in Teaching** grant program – to recognize and reward outstanding and innovative educators across the country.

We invite teachers to apply or be nominated by members of their community to receive a grant to support the purchase of classroom resources, such as books, activity/lab materials and technology, or personal professional development.

Our hope is that, through this program, we'll increase teacher retention by demonstrating support for the people who are responsible for developing our next generation of leaders, or unconventional thinkers. We also hope to encourage collaboration by asking the winning teachers to share their innovative ideas with all the teachers who apply.

Applications will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Demonstration of “unconventional thinking”
- Alignment with Marathon Oil's values to:
 - Collaborate
 - Take Ownership
 - Be Bold
 - Deliver Results
- Commitment to ensuring inclusive and equitable education for all students

Teachers in New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas are eligible to apply, with priority consideration given to teachers in Marathon Oil's operating areas. Grants will be made payable to the winner's school or school district, but will be designated for use by the winner and must adhere to any applicable school or district budget guidelines.

Applications and nominations should be submitted online at www.marathonoil.com/teachers before June 15, 2021.

2021 Timeline

- April 7, 2021: Application opens.
- June 15, 2021: Application closes.
- October 2021: Winners announced.

Program Rules and Details

Eligible winners must be full-time teachers, education support professionals, or specialized instructional support personnel. The program is not limited to specific courses or grade levels.

Applications will be judged by a panel of Marathon Oil employees and reviewed by select Marathon Oil Community Partners with experience in education.

All applications will be reviewed by at least three members of the judging panel, based on the volume of applications received.

Letters of recommendation are not required, but letters from school or district leadership are strongly encouraged. If a recommendation is not provided, school or district leadership will be contacted for approval prior to any grant communication or award.

Individual grant awards will likely range between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Exact grant amounts will be determined based on the number of winners and current program budget.

Grants will be made payable to the winner's school or school district, but will be designated for use by the winner to support the purchase of classroom resources, such as books, activity/lab materials and technology, or personal professional development. Materials purchased, if purchased in full with grant funds, will belong to the winner. Funds must be used within nine months of the date of receipt and must adhere to any applicable school or district budget guidelines. It is Marathon's intent that this grant will be treated for federal income tax purposes as a charitable contribution to the recipient school or school district.

If awarded a grant, the individual will be ineligible to apply again for three grant cycles. If an applicant is not selected, they can continue to apply each year.