

PCCTE Grant Application

This 2025 Grant Application was formed in compliance with the policy statement passed by the Valparaiso Redevelopment Commission on August 11, 2016 and per Indiana Code 36-7-25-7. Eligible entities must provide educational programs, work training programs, worker retraining programs, or any other programs that prepare individuals to participate in the competitive and global economy. School challenge grants are subject to available funding in the Commission’s annual budget and are provided at the sole and absolute discretion of the Commission. Grant funds cannot be used to subsidize ongoing operating expenses, staff salaries, personal expenses, or travel expenses. In granting school challenge grant funds, the Commission must find that the programs will promote the redevelopment and economic development of the City, is of utility and benefit, and is in the best interests of the City’s residents.

Please note this application is to be submitted to the Valparaiso Redevelopment Commission, c/o Debbie Melcic, 166 Lincolnway, Valparaiso, IN 46383 by April 30, 2025. Failure to file with the Commission in a timely fashion may render the project ineligible for funding. The Commission reserves the right to seek additional information relating to the project prior to reimbursement.

If you have any questions regarding this application or policies affecting this grant, please contact George Douglas, Director of Development at (219) 462-1161 or at gdouglas@valpo.us.

Total 2025 Funds Available to PCCTE: up to \$50,000

1.) Briefly outline the projects PCCTE intends to initiate or continue in 2025 with Redevelopment Grant Funds by listing the project, intended expenditures, and an estimated cost. Please remember that all expenditures must be capital-based and have a lifespan of no less than three years.

Title of Project	Intended Expenditures	Estimated Cost
Expansion to Radio/TV Studio and Classroom	Apple M4 Computers	5990.00
	Samsung Computer Monitors	1485.00
	Computer Mice	159.80
	Sony Noise Cancelling Headphones	1440.00
	Magic MAC USB Wired Keyboards	580.00
	USB Hubs	539.70
	ASUS ROG Laptop for Streaming Live games	1328.00
	Portable Power Packs- For camera Stream	1554.00
	Project Estimated Total	13,076.50
Laptops	Laptops and large screens for classrooms	26,950.00
Fire Science Expansion	Gear for the Fire Science Classroom as well as materials for Fire Science Skills Testing	9973.50
	Total	50,000.00

2.) Up to \$3,000 of total grant funds may be applied to the Arts as a match to State or private grants. If a state grant is not awarded, the funds may be used on arts-related capital expenses with a lifespan of no less than three years. If you intend to use grant funds on the arts, please list the project, intended expenditures, and the estimated cost below.

Title of Project NA	Intended Expenditures NA	Estimated Cost NA
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3.) Briefly explain how each project will use advanced methods or technologies that offer students an education that is competitive in the global economy.

Project 1:

We have increased the number of students in this program as the enrollment has increased. We will be using this grant to add the necessary equipment for students to continue to broadcast sporting events as well as radio broadcasts of other events. We partner with Valparaiso University Athletics so that students gain experience broadcasting in partnership with ESPN. This additional equipment will allow the students exposure while preparing them for future positions in this industry. This past year, some students in this program were given opportunities to broadcast at Notre Dame and the Chicago Bulls games. We are applying the skills students are learning to real life situations.

Project 2:

The current classroom computers have been in use for 5 years and the technology is outdated. Providing updated computers in the classroom will allow teachers to integrate guest speakers virtually as well as engaging students in interactive activities for their skills content. Using the large screens for student interaction will make it easier to review the demonstrations and speakers.

Project 3:

The Porter County CTE Fire Science Program class sizes have increased over the past 4 years. Additionally, we have over a 90 % pass rate in the state assessments and our students are being hired by many local fire agencies or are serving on volunteer departments. This is a field that is in dire need of personnel. The funds will be used to update the safety gear and purchase the necessary materials for students to engage in the activities required for the Fire Fighter 1 and 2 state testing.

4.) Briefly explain how the project enhances problem solving, collaboration, and analytical skills of students.

Project 1:

Through collaboration with post-secondary partners as well as national partners like ESPN Radio and TV, our students will have the ability to collaborate on events with Business and Industry partners. This will enhance their ability to organize broadcasts, prepare for events and work collectively on projects. Students are engaged in real life situations when broadcasting events such as Valparaiso High School Football and Basketball games as well as the Porter County Conference games. Additionally, students have been working with community partners such as the Boys and Girls clubs to prepare promotional videos.

Project 2:

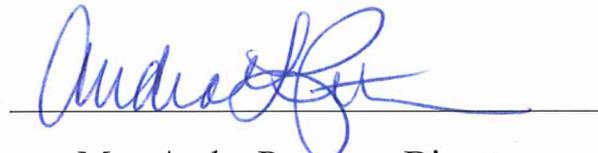
It has become more difficult and costly to take field trips or invite speakers into the classroom in some areas. We are working to collaborate with guest speakers so that we can do online/streamed demonstrations in the classroom as well as guided tours from some companies who can work through advanced technology.

Project 3:

Enrollment in the Fire Science program requires students to engage in many activities and skills testing in order to pass their Firefighter tests. Students participate in drills that require them to learn how to work collaboratively to put out fires, establish safety protocol amongst their peers, and evaluate situations so that they can meet the skills assessments. Students participate in active fires, live burn situations and learn to work together in high risk situations. The necessity of appropriate gear and materials will allow our students and instructors to enact real world situations.

5.) Provide evidence of the Board of Directors approval of the grant application. Minutes from a board meeting approving grant submission to the Valparaiso Redevelopment Commission will suffice.

This application was filed by Porter County Career & Technical Education as its formal application to the Valparaiso Redevelopment Commission, stating its intended uses for 2025 grant funds. I understand the Commission's right to seek additional information relating to the project prior to reimbursement.



Mrs. Audra Peterson, Director
Porter County Career & Technical Education