

# DIRECTIONS CREDIT UNION CARES FOR CLASSROOMS 2024-2025 GRANTS

## OFFICIAL RULES

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR TO WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. ALL FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL LAWS, AND REGULATIONS APPLY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED.

**Sponsor.** Directions Credit Union's Classroom Cares Contest is sponsored by Directions Credit Union ("Sponsor"). The Sponsor's decisions regarding the selection of winners and all other aspects of the grant program shall be final and binding in all respects. Sponsor will not be responsible for typographical, printing, or other inadvertent errors in these Official Rules or other materials or announcements relating to the contest.

**Eligibility.** This contest is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to laws related to eligibility to receive prizes. The winner must also comply with their employer's rules, regulations and policies on accepting grants. Only staff, faculty, and administrators employed in elementary, middle or high schools in the following Ohio and Michigan counties are eligible: Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Fulton, Huron, Knox, Lorain, Lucas, Medina, Morrow, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Tuscarawas, Wayne, Wood, Monroe (MI), Lenawee (MI). Entrants must be 18 years or older at the time of entry. Employees and volunteers of Directions Credit Union, its affiliates, and their immediate family members residing in a single household are not eligible. Entry into this grant or acceptance of any prize constitutes acceptance of the Official Rules. For a copy of the Official Rules, visit <https://directionscu.org/cares-for-classrooms/> or any Directions Credit Union branch location. The drawing and these Official Rules will be governed, construed, and interpreted in accordance with laws of the State of Ohio.

**Contest Timeline.** The grant application has two application windows. **Fall 2024** applications will be accepted starting on 8/26/2024. All entries must be received by 10:00 pm on 9/30/2024. Grant winners will be announced on or before 11/1/2024. **Winter 2025** applications will be accepted starting on 12/2/2024. All entries must be received by 10:00 pm on 1/31/2025. Grant winners will be announced on or before 3/3/2025.

**How To Apply.** To apply, complete and submit the online contest entry form at <https://directionscu.org/cares-for-classrooms/>. Multiple entries per person are allowed, but prize is limited to only one prize per person per application wave. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any entries by persons who submit illegible, incomplete, or inappropriate entries at Sponsor's sole discretion or who Sponsor determines to be tampering with or abusing any aspect of the Contest.

**Winner Selection and Judging Criteria.** Sponsor will select grant winners. Entries will be judged on the following:

- 1) Innovation: Demonstrate a compelling need and explain your idea clearly and concisely.
- 2) Impact: Explain the expected impact for your idea.

Directions Credit Union reserves the right to not award any grants if they feel none of the entries are voted to be worthy.

**Prize Description.** A total of up to \$15,000 will be awarded during the 2024-2025 School Year. Individual grants of up to \$500 each will be awarded. Potential winners are subject to eligibility verification and compliance with these Official Rules.

**Winner Notification and Acceptance.** Potential grant winners will be announced on or before 11/1/2024 for the Fall 2024 Wave and on or before 3/5/2025 for the Winter 2025 Wave via the information provided on the application form.

In order to claim a grant, any potential winner must respond to Sponsor's notification within 72 hours.

Potential winners may be required to complete an affidavit of eligibility, liability, and publicity release form.

Sponsor's inability to reach a potential winner after a reasonable (as solely determined by Sponsor) effort has been made, the failure of a potential winner to timely respond to prize notification, the return of any prize notification as undeliverable, and/or a potential winner's failure to comply with any term or condition of these Official Rules may, in Sponsor's sole discretion, result in the potential winner's disqualification.

A PARTICIPANT IS NOT A WINNER OF ANY GRANT UNLESS AND UNTIL SPONSOR HAS COMPLETED ITS VERIFICATION OF PARTICIPANT'S ELIGIBILITY.

**Publicity.** By accepting a Directions Credit Union Cares for Classrooms Grant, the grant winner agrees that Directions Credit Union has permission to use grant winner's photograph, likeness, art or written material, story, audio, or video including grant winner, for promotional purposes in items such as brochures, website, social media and other informational materials for the purpose of educating or informing others about Directions Credit Union.

Grant winner understands that he/she will not receive compensation for this use.

**Participation.** By participating in this Grant Program, participants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of Sponsor and any judges or administrators selected by Sponsor, which are final and binding in all respects. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify persons found tampering with or abusing any aspect of this grant program as solely determined by Sponsor. In the event the grant program is compromised by non-authorized human intervention, tampering, or other causes beyond the reasonable control of Sponsor which corrupt or impair the administration, security, fairness, or proper operation of the Grant Program, Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to suspend, modify or terminate the Grant Program. Should the Grant Program be terminated prior to the stated expiration date, Sponsor reserves the right to award grants based on the entries received before the termination date. Proof of sending or submission of an entry will not be deemed proof of receipt by Sponsor.

**Release.** BY PARTICIPATING IN THE GRANT PROGRAM, EACH PARTICIPANT AGREES TO FULLY RELEASE, FOREVER DISCHARGE AND HOLD HARMLESS SPONSOR, ITS PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE SUBSIDIARIES, AFFILIATES, SUPPLIERS, DISTRIBUTORS, ADVERTISING/PROMOTION AGENCIES, AND GRANT SUPPLIERS AND EACH SUCH COMPANY'S OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, AND SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS (COLLECTIVELY, THE "RELEASED PARTIES") FROM AND AGAINST ANY CLAIMS, COSTS, LIABILITIES, LOSSES, INJURIES, AND DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF THE CONTEST, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, OR DAMAGE TO OR LOSS OF PROPERTY, LOSS OF ENJOYMENT, OR ANY OTHER HARM WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF: (1) PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTEST; (2) THE QUALITY, RECEIPT, POSSESSION, USE, OR MISUSE OF ANY GRANT; OR (3) ANY TRAVEL OR ACTIVITY THAT IS RELATED TO THE GRANT/

**Taxes.** Contestants acknowledge and understand that they are responsible for any tax liability or tax filings that may be required due to their winning.

**Construction.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of these Official Rules shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision. In the event that any such provision is determined to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable, these Official Rules shall be construed in accordance with their terms as if the invalid or unenforceable provision was not contained therein.