

TBP MindSET PROGRAM INFORMATION
Tau Bates Serving the K-12 Educational Communities

CHAPTER PROJECT GRANTS

The Tau Beta Pi MindSET Program was established as the organization's contribution to the nation's focus on the need for better preparation of K-12 students in math and science, and increasing the numbers of those who are prepared to pursue careers in math, science, engineering, and technology (the MSET of MindSET). This is needed in order to maintain the nation's competitiveness in the global marketplace. Two critical points within the K-12 system that are targeted are the 8th and 12th grades, where we seek to increase completion of Algebra 1 by the 8th grade, in order to improve completion of calculus by the 12th grade. Our strategy is to use a hands-on (kinesthetic) approach for classroom instruction and lab demonstration of math and science concepts and applications.

To promote chapter involvement in K-12 math & science projects through MindSET, the Executive Council established a trial program in 2009 to provide awards in the form of chapter project grants. The grant money is to be used by chapters to develop engineering laboratory modules, and/or assist chapters in defraying the cost of establishing MindSET projects, and pursuing projects that serve their local K-12 community. In such projects, not only does society benefit from the TBP students' efforts, but participating TBP students also benefit from the experience they gain working with public officials and institutions. The maximum grant will be \$1,000. If multiple chapters propose a joint project, the maximum grant will be \$1,000/chapter.

Projects must be designed to assist students from the local primary and secondary schools to gain a better understanding of math and science applications and promote the importance of a strong math and science education. Projects that primarily benefit the chapter's college or university are ineligible. Proposals for grants shall be judged by the National Management Committee using the guidelines below (and forwarded to the Executive Council for approval):

1. Establishment of a MindSET Chapter Implementation Team (CIT).
2. Consistency of project emphasis with MindSET goals and objectives, including service to society, with a focus on increasing knowledge related to engineering and the STEM disciplines.
3. Measurable impact of the project on the local K-12 community is an important factor.
4. Involvement of a reasonable portion of the active membership of the chapter in the project.

Written proposals shall include:

1. A description of the project, brief school district information, service it will provide, and other pertinent background information.
2. An outline of previous activity by the chapter in this area, if any.
3. The specific goals and plans for implementation of the project.
4. Duration, activities, and time schedule of the project.
5. An itemized budget request.
6. The approximate number of members participating, the name of the person to be responsible as project director, and the name of a TBP local contact who will assist with meeting MindSET requirements.
7. Number and grade levels of students to be impacted by the project.

Proposals shall be as concise as possible in meeting these requirements. The chapter president must sign the proposal. If the proposal is for the following school year, the incoming president must also sign it. The presidents of all chapters must sign proposals for joint projects. A chapter may submit more than one proposal. No deadline for receipt of proposals at Tau Beta Pi Headquarters has been established.

Chapters submitting proposals shall be notified no later than two weeks after a decision by the Executive Council. Publicity for approved projects by Tau Beta Pi shall be scheduled and prepared by the Executive Director. Grant payments shall be made for individual or group projects to chapters on a schedule appropriate to the project budget.

Each chapter receiving a grant shall prepare a final report on its completed project within one month of completion, but no more than one year after receiving the grant. The report shall be submitted to the Executive Director. The report shall describe the project work accomplished and account for use of the grant. Engineering modules designed as a part of this grant must comply with design and formatting guidelines provided by MindSET, and must be submitted for review and inclusion in the MindSET Module Bank. In addition, chapters are required to submit photographs of MindSET activities with their reports. A summary of the report shall be published in THE BENT.