

INTRODUCTION: CELEBRATE SUCCESS!

OBJECTIVE: Students understand they are being offered an opportunity for an independent group project. Students understand the basic concept of the project.

PRESENT OVERVIEW

(This is the time to show it as challenging and fun!)

This is the chance for students to take charge! Students can come up with an end-of-program celebration and recognition event, get the money to do it, and carry it out. To get the money, they write a proposal explaining what they want to do, with a budget, then submit the proposal by the deadline for approval.

Discuss different awards or recognitions that students (or people they know) have received, such as trophies, prizes, honorary lunches, and so on.

ASK FOR IDEAS AND DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES for different kinds of events to celebrate end-of-year achievement in the program. Students will come up with all kinds of ideas that may be realistic, or not.

Don't worry about whether it's realistic yet, but if ideas aren't flowing, mention things like trips, parties, calculators, books, gift cards to video or book stores, food, movies, bowling, or donations.

EXPLAIN "RFP" (Request for Proposals)

An RFP is a competition for a money award, with rules for submission. RFPs are judged to see if the money will be given. Usually many apply, few receive.

Explain that community organizations submit proposals to get money for their projects. Give local examples, if possible, and explain that responding to RFPs is a basic skill for fund raising.

Ask if anyone has experience with this. What?

EXPLAIN PROCESS

The RFP is a group project. Students will have time over the next few days to look over the project and decide if they want to go ahead and go for the grant.



The leader/teacher's role is to help students think through their ideas, but the proposal **MUST** be produced and written by students only.

OFFER CHOICE, AS POSSIBLE, ABOUT PARTICIPATION

If only some members of the group want to do the project, explain that you can go ahead only if:

- A majority participates in the committees
- Non-participants agree to accept whatever the committee plans
- Non-participants do other work (such as homework) during RFP time

MAKE IT CLEAR that this is real work, and that it has to be good to get the grant award.

If students don't focus during project time and stay on track, they won't meet the deadline or the quality standards.

ASK if they want a sneak preview of the RFP document before talking about it next session.

If so, form small groups, hand out the RFP, and give them time to glance through it.

All of the students participated in many ways, but we are the three who stay until the very end making sure it was as good as it could be.

—RFP group

