

Print

Community and Economic Development Grant Application FY2025-26 - Submission #2622

Date Submitted: 11/23/2025

Name of Applicant Organization*

Pacific Northwest Coastal Academy (PNWCA)

Mailing Address*

584 SE 4TH STREET

City*

TOLEDO

State*

OR

Zip Code*

97391

Person Completing the Application

Name*

Elise Jordan

Email Address*

elise.jordan@me.com

Phone Number*

541-961-9285

Name of Your Project*

Future Builders: Early Education & Aftercare Support for Working Families

Total Project Budget*

\$21,178

This includes all anticipated sources of funding

Amount Requested from this Program*

\$8,000

(max \$15k for STANDARD, \$50k for IMPACT)

Location of Project Activities*

Newport and Surrounding Areas

Where in Lincoln County is your project happening?

Pool of Funds Applying to*

- STANDARD (\$15K Max)
- IMPACT (\$50K Max)

Project Description*

Overview: PNW Coastal Academy is a nonprofit K-6 educational institution dedicated to the principle that every child deserves tailored instruction that aligns with their unique pace, strengths, and developmental requirements. Situated in Newport, our academy serves a diverse population of students, championing inclusivity and academic excellence.

Project Description: PNW Coastal Academy is requesting grant funding to expand our scholarship and aftercare opportunities for students and their families, particularly benefiting lower-income working families. The initiative aims to ensure equitable access to high-quality private education for all children, particularly those who face financial barriers.

Educational Impact: PNW Coastal Academy addresses a critical need within the Lincoln County community by offering early access to kindergarten for children who are under the age of five by the school district's September 1st cutoff. By offering flexible enrollment options, we enable motivated and developmentally ready children to start their educational journey earlier, which is essential for enhancing their academic trajectory. This flexibility significantly benefits working families who require childcare solutions and educational options that align with their needs.

Our personalized learning environment fosters academic growth through experiential learning and supports social-emotional development. We pride ourselves on maintaining low student-to-teacher ratios, allowing for customized learning pathways that cater to individual student needs.

Community and Economic Benefits: This grant will play a pivotal role in promoting the economic vitality of Lincoln County by investing in young working families and ensuring that their children have access to valuable early education through scholarships and after-school care programming. By expanding our after-school care services, we support workforce stability and provide parents with the peace of mind necessary to pursue their careers while knowing their children are safe and engaged in productive activities.

PNW Coastal Academy aspires to be a model of innovative education, offering accessible learning opportunities for all children, regardless of age cutoffs or socioeconomic barriers. Our commitment to inclusivity extends to admitting students of any race, color, national, and ethnic origins, granting them equal access to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities at our school.

Project Summary: By investing in our scholarship and aftercare initiatives, grantors can help pave the way for a brighter future for Lincoln County's youth. Together, we can support families striving for education and economic advancement, building a stronger, more equitable community for all.

What is the project and what will it do for community and/or economic development? What tangible items or results will the project deliver? How will the success of this project be judged? IMPORTANT: This fund is not intended for staff or operations. Please describe the economic impact of the project and how it creates or retains jobs in the community.

Funding*

The total proposed budget for PNW Coastal Academy's "Future Builders: Early Education & Aftercare Support for Working Families" project is \$21,178.00. This comprehensive budget demonstrates a multi-faceted approach to funding, combining secured contributions, proposed matching funds, and a targeted request to the Lincoln County Economic Development Alliance (EDALC).

Funding Breakdown:

1. Amount Requested from EDALC: \$8,000. This grant request represents a critical component of the project's funding, specifically dedicated to establishing a full and partial scholarship fund to support up to four students. This direct investment will significantly enhance access for lower-income families to PNW Coastal Academy's individualized instruction and aftercare services.

2. Secured Funds: The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Charitable Contribution Fund granted \$2,178 to support the acquisition of a 3D printer and the development of a student entrepreneurial project. This initiative not only provides innovative educational opportunities but also contributes to long-term sustainability efforts through potential revenue generation. Furthermore PTA Volunteers have raised \$400, these initial fundraising efforts by our dedicated Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) volunteers demonstrate dedication towards ongoing scholarship sustainability.

3. Applicant Share Matching Funds (Proposed and Pending): \$10,600. PNW Coastal Academy Staff offer In-kind Support and are committed to provide in-kind support equivalent to a full or partial scholarship for up to two students. This demonstrates the academy's deep commitment to increasing access regardless of socioeconomic background. Partnerships with the Yakona Nature Preserve & Learning Center, Reach for the Stars, Sea Grant, and other local community partners and businesses PNW Coastal Academy can count on in-kind support for monthly experiential programming in the community, enriching the curriculum and providing unique learning opportunities. The PTA has proposed an additional \$300 from ongoing and future fundraising efforts to further sustain scholarships. The owner of White Rabbit Coffee in Newport is offering a promising partnership which will generate 20% of proceeds from their "Drink of the Month" during February 2026, contributing an estimated \$300 to the scholarship fund.

Sustainability Plan: The project's long-term sustainability is a key focus. Funding will be maintained through ongoing and future fundraising efforts spearheaded by the PTA, ensuring a continuous stream of support for scholarships. Furthermore, the 3D-Printing Entrepreneurial project, funded by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, is designed to become a self-sustaining venture that will contribute to the academy's financial health and scholarship fund.

Significance of this Request: This marks the first instance that PNW Coastal Academy has sought external grant funding for a scholarship fund to expand access for students and families. This milestone underscores our commitment to broadening access to high-quality private education and comprehensive aftercare for Lincoln County's lower-income working families, directly contributing to the economic stability and educational equity of the region.

If applicable, please describe the status of other funding sources you have applied for or intend to apply for, and indicate whether those funds have been awarded. Also, list any other funds for which you have applied but were not funded - how much did you ask for, from whom, and why was the application not funded?

Collaboration*

PNW Coastal Academy partners with a diverse array of local partners to provide engaging, experiential learning opportunities for all students both in the classroom and around the community. Partners this year include The City of Newport, Sea Grant, and local small businesses like White Rabbit Coffee, Oyster Bluff Shellfish and non-profits like the Yakona Nature Preserve and Reach for the Stars Equine Ranch. This school year students are currently participating in Horse Riding Lessons 1x/month at the Seal Rock Horse Stables. This is a new experience for many of the students to not only ride a horse, but also experience the many tasks and responsibilities required of caretaking for horses (in other words, students help with mucking stalls and feeding the horses while at the stables!)

If applicable, please list who you are collaborating with and why.

Viability*

The "Future Builders" project at PNW Coastal Academy presents a highly viable solution to critical educational and economic needs within Lincoln County. Its viability is firmly rooted in a well-defined strategy, a diverse funding model, clear success metrics, and a robust commitment to long-term sustainability.

The project directly addresses the pressing demand for accessible early kindergarten and quality aftercare, specifically targeting working families facing socioeconomic barriers. By offering early kindergarten access for children not meeting traditional age cut-offs, PNW Coastal Academy removes significant childcare and educational barriers. This, combined with our emphasis on individualized instruction, ensures high-quality educational experiences that directly support parents' work-life balance and foster strong community engagement.

Financially, the project's viability is strengthened by a comprehensive \$21,178 budget, drawing from diversified sources. This includes a crucial grant request to EDALC, existing secured funds, and substantial matching contributions from staff, community partners, and ongoing fundraising. This multi-faceted funding strategy mitigates risk and demonstrates broad stakeholder commitment. As our first application for scholarship and aftercare expansion, securing this grant is a pivotal step toward increased capacity and growth.

Project success will be tangibly measured through key indicators: increased enrollment in early kindergarten and higher participation in enrichment-based aftercare programs. Crucially, success will also be gauged by the number of new student enrollments accessing partial or full tuition assistance, directly benefiting lower-income working families and fulfilling the core mission of equitable private school access. These metrics will clearly demonstrate the project's effectiveness in enhancing local workforce stability and educational equity.

Long-term sustainability is integral to the project's design. Ongoing fundraising efforts by the PTA, coupled with the income-generating potential of the 3D-Printing Entrepreneurial project, are engineered to create a continuous, self-sustaining scholarship fund and expand aftercare support. This forward-thinking approach ensures the project's benefits will extend far beyond the initial grant period, establishing a lasting positive impact on Lincoln County families.

In summary, the "Future Builders" project's strategic alignment with community needs, robust funding structure, clear measurable outcomes, and built-in sustainability mechanisms confirm its high viability, promising significant and lasting benefits for lower-income working families and the economic vitality of Lincoln County.

How will the success of this project be judged? State success measures and timeline. Will this project need ongoing funding? How will this be secured?

Desired Start Date*

6/1/2026

Desired End Date*

6/1/2027

Budget Documents*

PNW Coastal Academy Future Builders Project Budget.pdf
Please submit as a PDF file - project budget only (not organizational budget)

Letter(s) of Support

PNW Academy LOS 11.22.25.pdf
At least one letter of support is required for an IMPACT application.

Name of Chief Executive*

Erinne Irish

Title*

Founder and Director

Chief Executive Email*

pnwcoastalacademy@gmail.com

Tax ID Number*

88-3815211

Type of Applicant Organization*

501(c)(3) Nonprofit

Project Budget: Future Builders: Early Education & Aftercare Support for Working Families

PNW Coastal Academy November, 2025					
Project Budget Overview					
Total Applicant Share Matching Funds Secured		\$2,578.00			
Total Applicant Share Matching Funds Proposed and Pending		\$10,600			
Total Amount Requested from EDALC		\$8,000.00			
Total Project Budget		\$21,178.00			
Category	Source	Description	Total Requested from EDALC	Secured Amount	Applicant Share Matching Funds, Proposed and Pending
Grant Request	Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County	Full & partial scholarship fund for up-to 4 students	\$8,000.00		
Fundraising	PTA Volunteers	Ongoing and future fundraising efforts to sustain scholarships		\$400.00	\$300.00
Funded Programming	Confederated Tribes of Siletz Charitable Contribution Fund	Grant funded (2025) for 3D Printer, student entrepreneurial project		\$2,178.00	
In-kind Support	PNW Coastal Academy Staff	Full or partial scholarship for up-to 2 students			\$6,500.00
In-kind Support	Yakona Nature Preserve & Learning Center, Reach for the Stars, Sea Grant, and other local community partners and businesses	Monthly experiential programming in the community			\$3,500.00
Fundraiser	White Rabbit Coffee	20% Proceeds from the "Drink of the Month" (February)		-	\$300.00
		Total	\$8,000.00	\$2,578.00	\$10,600



YAKONA

November 22, 2025

To whom it may concern,

Yakona Nature Preserve & Learning Center protects 460-acres of Sitka spruce coastal forest in Newport, Oregon. We promote education while working to restore the native habitat. Our educational programs center students as scientists from pre-K to college. We are dedicated to cultivating the next generation of environmental stewards through place-based learning that links science and the arts.

Yakona works with many Lincoln County schools, including PNW Academy. We have hosted their students on several field trips and see how they foster wonder and curiosity through their teaching. We support their Future Builders project to increase access for lower income working families to their high-quality educational school. Yakona, like PNW Academy, is dedicated to equitable access for all, regardless of socioeconomic status.

We fully support this request without reservation. We look forward to continuing to work with PNW Academy to provide personalized, experiential learning opportunities for the students of Lincoln County.

Sincerely,



Dr. Natalie Schiefer
Executive Director