

FOR PREVIEW PURPOSES ONLY

When you're ready to apply, please use this: [link](#)

2026 SparkForce Summer Manufacturing Camp Grant Application

Due Date: December 1, 2025, at 11:59 CST

Welcome and thank you for your interest in hosting a 2026 SparkForce summer manufacturing camp!

Please review the document here <https://www.fmamfg.org/foundation/camps/host-a-camp> and submit your application no later than December 1, 2025 to request support for your 2026 summer manufacturing camp. All applications will be reviewed in December 2025 and grant award recipients will be notified via email in early January 2026.

Please Note: A separate application must be completed for each camp being held at your school/organization. There's no limit on the number of camp grants one school or organization may apply for. If the same camp is being held during two different weeks and/or reaching two different audiences, it qualifies as two camps, and two separate applications should be submitted.

Please contact Leah Lewandowski at llewandowski@fmamfg.org or 815-227-8219 with any questions.

Section I: Camp Information

Contact Information:

- ☐ School / Organization Name _____
- ☐ Address 1 _____
- ☐ Address 2 _____
- ☐ City _____
- ☐ State or Province (e.g. IL) _____
- ☐ Postal Code _____

- ☐ County _____
- ☐ Country _____
- ☐ Main Telephone _____
- ☐ Website _____
- ☐ Main Contact Person _____
- ☐ Title _____
- ☐ Email Address _____
- ☐ Direct Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx) _____
- ☐ Mobile Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx) _____

Person Completing Application (*if same as above leave this section blank*):

- ☐ Contact Name _____
- ☐ Title _____
- ☐ School / Organization Name _____
- ☐ Email Address _____
- ☐ Direct Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx) _____

Will the camp be held at the same address as listed above?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Location of camp:

☐ School / Organization Name _____

☐ Address 1 _____

☐ Address 2 _____

☐ City _____

☐ State or Province _____

☐ Postal Code _____

☐ County _____

☐ Country _____

Is your school or organization a member of the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association (FMA)?

☐ Yes (if so, please list your member ID number) _____

☐ No

List and/or provide a link to your school's current manufacturing degrees or training programs:

List and/or provide a link to your school's entrepreneurship courses or programs, if applicable:

Section II: Grant Request

If your application is approved, SparkForce will provide a funding grant award of \$2,000 for your camp. In addition to the monetary award, camp hosts will receive the following:

- Custom camp t-shirts featuring your school/organization and sponsors' logos
- Entrepreneurship curriculum for students and instructors
- SolidWorks software student licenses
- Marketing materials

Grant Request:

- ☐ \$2,000 plus non-financial benefits listed above.
- ☐ Non-financial benefits only, as listed above, as we have received adequate camp funding from other sources.

How did you hear about the SparkForce summer manufacturing camp grant program?

- ☐ Previous Grant Recipient
- ☐ FMA publications or SparkForce communications
- ☐ PMMI, CCAI, or another association
- ☐ Mailing / Email
- ☐ Online / Web Search
- ☐ From a Colleague (please enter the name) _____

Section III: Proposed Camp Program

Proposed camp name and/or focus, if known. If yet to be determined, indicate "TBD" in the space provided:

Projected Camp Dates:

Enter a projected start and end date for the camp. We understand that plans may change, so there will be an opportunity for grant recipients to change the camp dates when they submit the required marketing form within 30 days of the grant acceptance date.

- ☐ Start Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____
- ☐ End Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____

SparkForce recommends a minimum of 12 participants per camp. Can the camp facilities accommodate at least 12 students?

☐ Yes

☐ No

What is the maximum number of students the camp can adequately accommodate? _____

SparkForce recommends a minimum of 25 hours for a one-week camp or 45 hours for a two-week camp. Will your camp be able to meet those guidelines?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Estimated number of hours for camp activities per day: _____

SparkForce's target audience for summer manufacturing camps is girls and boys, ages 12-16. What will be the age range of your camp participants? (Select all that apply)

☐

11

☐

12

☐

13

☐

14

☐

15

☐

16

☐

17

☐

Other _____

Please indicate the gender of students that will be participating in the camp:

- ☐ Male & Female
- ☐ Female Only
- ☐ Male Only

Please list the school district(s) your camp will serve and/or recruit camp participants from:

Based on the school district(s) listed above, please estimate the percentage of students (i.e., prospective camp participants) that come from low-income areas:

SparkForce recommends that camps charge participants a minimum fee of \$59 for a one-week camp or \$99 for a two-week camp. What, if any, tuition fee will be charged to students?

Will your school or group provide scholarships or discounted camp fees to any students?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

SparkForce recommends that camp hosts identify at least 2 or 3 manufacturing employers and businesses in their local community who will agree to support the camp by providing a sponsorship, a

plant tour, a guest speaker, and/or other service or material donations prior to completing this application.

Propose at least two community partners and/or local manufacturers with whom you will collaborate and/or tour:

- ☐ Company Name 1 _____
- ☐ Company Name 2 _____
- ☐ Company Name 3 _____
- ☐ Company Name 4 _____

Propose at least two local entrepreneurs or business leaders whom you would invite to camp as guest speakers. Please include their company names:

- ☐ Proposed Speaker 1 _____
- ☐ Speaker 1 Company Name _____
- ☐ Proposed Speaker 2 _____
- ☐ Speaker 2 Company Name _____

Manufacturing camps require significant promotion to recruit students. Please list your marketing strategies and other methods by which the camp will be promoted:

What additional funding will be received or pursued, if any?

What are your goals for the proposed summer camp program? If there are specific learning objectives, please list them.

Section IV: Camp's Manufacturing Focus

What manufacturing processes does the school intend to introduce to students? Please check all that apply.

- ☐ 3-D Printing/Additive Mfg.
- ☐ Assembly
- ☐ Bending
- ☐ CAD/CAM
- ☐ CNC
- ☐ Cutting
- ☐ Drilling
- ☐ Electronics Technology
- ☐ Finishing
- ☐ Laser Processing
- ☐ Machining
- ☐ Mechatronics
- ☐ Metrology
- ☐ Nondestructive Testing (NDT)
- ☐ Packaging / Handling
- ☐ Painting / Coating
- ☐ Plastics Technology

- ☐ Programming
- ☐ Punching
- ☐ Robotics
- ☐ Shearing
- ☐ Stamping
- ☐ Welding
- ☐ Other _____

What shop equipment will be used during the camp?

SparkForce, through its partnership with SolidWorks, can provide a downloadable link for the student version of SolidWorks' CAD design software with 365-day trial licenses for use on students' personal computers. Will the school request this software?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Provide a proposed schedule to outline what students will be learning and doing daily. **Please include details and/or ideas for projects the students will make and take home:**

Section V: Statistical Data

SparkForce is interested in gathering statistical data to show the impact that summer manufacturing camps have on increasing the number of students enrolled in technical programs and pursuing a manufacturing career. Your help in responding to the following questions is critical to the success of the SparkForce camp program. Information is collected for tracking and reporting purposes only and will not affect your application for camp funding or support.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are a previous camp host, you will be asked to provide SparkForce with historical data on previous camp participants, their progress through your school's program, and their intended career path on the final camp evaluation report that camp grant award winners are required to submit within 30 days of the conclusion of their camp.

Do you register camp participants using your school's course registration system (i.e. would a student's camp attendance show on their permanent record)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Applicable (My organization is not a school.)

If no, how and where is campers' information kept and for how long?

Do you collect campers' parent/guardian contact information?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Does your school track internships/apprenticeships and employment placements for your technical program graduates?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not applicable

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: Camp hosts should be prepared to report the following demographic information on campers and their families, along with the camp's staff and instructors (aggregate data to be provided to SparkForce in the final camp evaluation report submitted within 30 days of the conclusion of the camp).

Please consider adding these questions to your registration form so that you may report the numbers accurately:

Gender:

Male

Female

Ethnicity:

Hispanic or Latino

Not Hispanic or Latino

Race:

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White

Family Income:

Above federal poverty level

At federal poverty level

Below federal poverty level

(Income level can be self-reported by parents or you may estimate based on the host school's area demographics.)

Section VI: Other Requirements

In addition to completing this application, SparkForce requires grant recipients to agree to the following guidelines. If your school is selected to receive a grant, you agree to:

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1. **Execute and return a copy of SparkForce's Camp Grant Acceptance form** signed by a duly authorized representative of your organization.
2. **Complete a marketing form** within 30 days of notification of your grant. The marketing form helps SparkForce promote your camp on our website and is critical in helping us prepare camp materials such as customized camp t-shirts.
3. **Administer SparkForce online pre- and post-camp surveys** to participants. The pre-camp survey must be administered on the first day of camp and the post-camp survey must be administered prior to dismissing students on the last day of camp. The results will gauge the effectiveness of the camp approach to changing attitudes about manufacturing careers.
4. **Provide a full camp evaluation and financial report** within 30 days of the conclusion of your camp. The

evaluation is important to the camp program to show successes/areas for improvement and the financial report is critical for SparkForce recording.

5. **Provide SparkForce with tracking data on camp participants** on the Final Evaluation form.

Agreement and Electronic Signature:

If our application is approved to receive support from SparkForce for a summer manufacturing camp, we will adhere to the guidelines stated in this application.

Signature: _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: Click SUBMIT in the lower right to submit your application. Upon submission, you will automatically see a summary of your responses. Please select the [DOWNLOAD PDF](#) button in the upper right corner to save a copy for your files.

Please contact Leah Lewandowski at llewandowski@fmamfg.org or 815-227-8219 with any questions. All applications will be reviewed in December 2025 and grant award recipients will be notified via email in early January 2026.