

DENSO North America Foundation
Request for Higher Education
Proposals 2024-2026
United States

The DENSO North America Foundation (DNAF) seeks to promote and enhance the training required for entry into the automotive industry. To support this initiative, DNAF has committed to distribute funding to higher education institutions for support of a project that advances student understanding and application of automotive products or systems.

DNAF invites you to submit a grant proposal for support of a project that advances student understanding and provides hands-on learning while enhancing student retention.

Proposals are sought for *equipment investment, student projects and/or research* in one of the following areas:

- **Mobility critical skills areas**
Software engineering, embedded programming, cloud architecture, cyber security and algorithm development
- **Manufacturing**
Technologies that provide substantial efficiencies to manufacturing process, including flexible automation, Additive Manufacturing, Digitization and Artificial intelligence.
- **Data Analytics**
Technology and application development to provide new value by utilizing big data gathered from connected cars and/or manufacturing sites (e.g. autonomous driving, traffic control, predictive maintenance, factory IoT)

Grant Goals:

- Engage and motivate a student body in being part of future mobility.
- Provide hands-on training for the application of automotive technologies.
- Improve retention of students within these academic disciplines.
- Be innovative in thinking and practical in application.
- Provide an environment for problem solving and team building.

Grant Details:

- The application process is by invitation only.
- The grant period will be two years (July 2024-July 2026)
- The maximum grant considered will be for \$200,000.
 - Applicants are encouraged to provide multiple budget options to allow broader consideration.

Application Requirements:

- A. Grant proposal must include each of the following:
 - I. A problem statement.
 - II. An action plan with timeline.
 - III. Defined measurable outcomes that demonstrate how the project contributes to student learning, student retention and how many students will be reached.
 - IV. A complete estimated budget including a breakout of expenses for which this proposal seeks support.
- B. Proposals should be no longer than 5 pages and written for technical and non-technical reviewers.

Restrictions:

- A. Previously awarded grant funding must be spent, or unspent amounts returned, prior to the issuing of a new grant.
- B. DNAF will not fund salaries, stipends, project travel expenses or program administrative costs, capital building investments (“brick and mortar”), product development and patents.
- C. Institutions awarded a grant are not eligible for new grants until the completion of the grant cycle (2 years)
- D. Institutions awarded a grant are not eligible for a new grant while on an extension or while the existing grant is in incomplete status.

Proposal Submission:

- Proposals must be submitted by June 19, 2024 through the [DENSO North America Foundation Website](#)

Key Dates:

May 20	Request for Proposals Issued
June 19	Proposals due/ Annual Activity Report Due
June 15- July 18	Board review/Determinations
July 24	<i>Target</i> determination notices & Agreements released
July 31	Signed Agreements due
August 1 – August 15	Grants released
August 1, 2025	Grant year 1 check in

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