# MEMORANDUM

**To:** All District and School-Level Administrators and Teachers
**From:** Dr. Marcia Oglesby, Director, Grants & Partnerships
**Through:** Mrs. Jennifer Caracciolo, Interim Chief DCEIP
**Date:** October 10, 2025
**Subject:** *Funding Focus Friday*: Amazon Future Engineer Curriculum and Teacher Trainings

The Amazon Future Engineer (*AFE*) program, an extension of the Amazon Cyber Robotics Challenge, provides free access to CoderZ's virtual robotics modules for 1,000 Title I teachers during this school year, which can serve up to 150 students per educator over a six-month period. After a three-hour introductory challenge, teachers can assign students to more advanced modules tailored to their grade level and abilities. **The application process is currently open for grades 4-12.**

This is an Instruction-First Opportunity

- Lessons are tightly aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence in Math and Science (e.g., sequencing, variables, ratios, coordinate plane, energy) and with Georgia Computer Science standards (computational thinking, problem decomposition).
- Built-in scaffolds for all learners offer mission-based tasks, step-by-step hints, and immediate feedback, supporting diverse needs without requiring prior coding experience.
- Immediate assessment tools include "mission checks," reflection prompts, and progress tracking, turning coding activities into formative data.
- Exportable artifacts like screenshots and code snippets illustrate student learning for portfolios and professional learning communities.

Student Engagement Increases

- Students program virtual robots to complete logistics tasks, facing authentic, real-world constraints like time and accuracy.
- Monitored progress rewards students with awards, badges, and levels, encouraging persistence and celebrating growth, not just correct answers.
- Students can explore various strategies, compare run times, and justify their methods, promoting math discussions and peer teaching.
- Teams design, test, and present solutions to a logistics challenge; score with a rubric covering accuracy, efficiency, collaboration, and reflection.
- *The AFE program links classroom work to $40,000 scholarships and guaranteed Amazon internships for eligible seniors.*

CLICK HERE for more information on AFE curriculum/teacher training. To apply, CLICK HERE.

Need more grant options? The searchable Monthly Education Grants Alert (*MEGA*) for October 2025 is HERE.

Remember to follow the DCSD Grant Guidelines and work with Grants & Partnerships to coordinate the next steps. We are here to support you in shaping your ideas and strengthening your submissions. To begin your application, have questions answered, or get experienced advice, email us at grantsandpartnerships@dekalbschoolsga.org. Thanks, from the DCSD Grants and Partnerships Team!


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