



CALIFORNIA  
TABLE GRAPE  
COMMISSION

392 W. Fallbrook,  
Suite 101  
Fresno, California  
93711-6150  
phone: 559.447.8350  
fax: 559.447.9184  
[grapesfromcalifornia.com](http://grapesfromcalifornia.com)

# News Release

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Contact: Jim Howard  
[jim@grapesfromcalifornia.com](mailto:jim@grapesfromcalifornia.com)

## Grape Commission Offers Mini-Grants to California Teachers

FRESNO, California – The California Table Grape Commission's "Innovation in Teaching" program is offering 10 mini-grants for up to \$500 each to teachers in California's grape-growing regions. Since 1993, the commission's "Innovation in Teaching" program has provided over \$75,000 in mini-grants, reaching more than 5,000 students in the Coachella and San Joaquin Valley farm communities.

The mini-grants are available to elementary, junior high and high school teachers. Teachers are asked to submit innovative project ideas in any subject that directly involve and benefit the education of their students. Mini-grant applications can include ideas for classroom, outdoor, field trips and group projects that are completed by the end of the 2009-10 school year.

Past mini-grant awards include projects in a wide range of subject areas. For example, one award last year was used to purchase equipment and materials to conduct a hands-on project on plant growth and bee pollination. Additional funded projects include a solar energy race, a museum field trip and an interactive classroom store. Last year's awards went to teachers at schools in rural areas throughout the San Joaquin Valley, including Reedley, Porterville, Bakersfield, Arvin, Kingsburg and Coalinga.

Mini-grant applications are due to the commission by **January 18, 2010**. Applications can be emailed to [info@grapesfromcalifornia.com](mailto:info@grapesfromcalifornia.com) or mailed to: California Table Grape Commission, 392 W. Fallbrook, Suite 101, Fresno, CA 93711. Winning applicants and school districts will be notified of the outcome in February 2010.

The California Table Grape Commission was created by the California legislature in 1967 to increase worldwide demand for fresh California grapes through a variety of research and promotional programs. Mini-grant flyers and applications can be downloaded from the commission website, [grapesfromcalifornia.com](http://grapesfromcalifornia.com), within the Kids & Teachers section. Teachers can contact their local district office and/or the commission at [info@grapesfromcalifornia.com](mailto:info@grapesfromcalifornia.com) for more information.

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