



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Education Credit Union Foundation Awards 162 Pocket Change Grants to Texas Panhandle Teachers; Program Total Surpasses \$1 Million in Grants Funded**

**Amarillo, Texas** – Education Credit Union Foundation (ECU Foundation) is proud to announce the awarding of the **2025-2026 Pocket Change Grants**, awarding **162 grants** to educators across **33 Independent School Districts**, and **102 campuses** throughout the Texas Panhandle.

Since its launch in 2009, the Pocket Change Grant program has now distributed **\$1.15 million** in classroom grants to teachers.

The Pocket Change Grant program empowers local teachers by funding creative, hands-on classroom projects, and experiences that might not otherwise be a possibility. The program is fueled by ECU employees who donate “Pocket Change” each pay-period to fund the grants. Donations are also accepted from individuals within our community to help amplify the ECU employee efforts each school year.

“Teachers are the heart of our communities, going above and beyond everyday to make learning meaningful for their students,” said Marcus Smith, CEO and President of Education Credit Union and ECU Foundation Board President. “With these grants, the ECU Foundation is proud to recognize their dedication and provide added support to help bring their amazing ideas to life.”

ECU Foundation’s commitment to the region reinforces their mission to promote public trust in philanthropy and the value of academic, financial, and cultural learning that enriches educational opportunities across the Texas Panhandle.

To learn more about ECU Foundation and the Pocket Change Grant Program, visit [www.ecu-foundation.org/pocket-change-grants/](http://www.ecu-foundation.org/pocket-change-grants/).

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**About Education Credit Union Foundation**

Education Credit Union Foundation was formed as a 501(c)(3) in 2022 to carry on Education Credit Union's legacy of philanthropy and community service. The foundation's core values are enabling student success, promoting teacher excellence, and expanding positive impacts in the community. Its vision is to be the trustworthy community resource for educators, students and nonprofits in the Texas Panhandle. ECU Foundation is committed to moving the Panhandle forward. For more, visit: [www.ecu-foundation.org](http://www.ecu-foundation.org)

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