

# Helpful Tips for a Winning GAP Application!

## RELEVANCE

Read the Project-based categories carefully and be sure your project fits the category for which it is being submitted.

- Make sure the judges can see that you actually implemented the project in your classroom during the current school year
- Include dated lesson plans, handouts, timelines

## ECONOMICS & PERSONAL FINANCE

Remember these are awards for excellence in teaching economics & personal finance.

- Show how economic concepts were incorporated into your lesson plans
- How does your project relate to economics & personal finance strand in the state standards?
- It's always helpful to include your lesson plans

## CREATIVITY

How were you innovative in presenting the lessons or adapting the activities for your class(es)?

- Include samples of handouts or other materials you used in the classroom
- Describe what makes your project unique or innovative

## MOTIVATION

Was your project effective in stimulating interest and motivating your students to learn more about the subject area?

- Describe how interest and motivation was manifested
- Better yet, let your students tell the story for you
- Visual aids always help show your students' enthusiasm – photos, student drawings, or videos

## SUCCESS

Did your project succeed in developing student critical thinking in relation to economic concepts?

- Again, let your students tell the story for you and include samples of their work
- Pre- and post-tests are not required but they can help show project success

## EXTRA

Does your project show the judges how you demonstrated leadership or went beyond the call of duty? Did the project have an impact beyond your classroom?

***Don't just TELL the judges what you did, SHOW them. Be sure to include:***

- ✓ Samples of class assignments, handouts
- ✓ Samples of students' work
- ✓ Visual aids, including photos, drawings, videos or other means to illustrate how the program impacted your students

