



Release Date: August 27, 2018

Supporting Educational Success Request for Proposals

Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) welcomes requests for funding to support the educational success of children, youth and young adults across our region. An invitation to submit a proposal in no way guarantees a grant award. This is a competitive process. The deadline for proposal submission is **Friday, Sept. 28, 2018, by 5:00 p.m.**

As a trusted and connected partner, we inspire generous people to invest in a more equitable and vibrant region, now and for generations to come. This grant process is made possible by GCF's generous donors. It is our privilege to connect donor dollars with the pressing needs of our region that your strategic work aims to address.

Funding Focus

GCF has a dynamic history of investing in educational success throughout our eightcounty region. We live in a region with sizable disparities; educational attainment has proven to be a primary means of advancement in our society. RFPs should explicitly address one of the following purposes, as they will be reviewed through separate processes:

1. Purpose:

To support in and out of school educational efforts that reduce disparities in educational attainment for students of color and/or those of low socioeconomic status; or that increases social emotional learning and health.

Results:

- Percentage of children assessed as ready for kindergarten.
- Percentage increase of students performing at grade level or above.
- Percentage of students graduating from high school.
- Percentage of students who are healthy, socially, emotionally and physically.

OR



2. Purpose:

To improve educational outcomes in math and science for at-risk students in grades 1-12 through increased access to STEM learning opportunities.

Results:

- Percentage increase in student math and science scores.
- Percentage increase of students introduced to STEM through new or existing programs.
- Percentage increase of exposure of students to careers/professionals in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.
- Plan for sustainable integration of STEM in the curriculum.

Use of Funds

Grants will be awarded in the amount of up to \$25,000. Funding may be used to support, expand or strengthen existing programs, launch a new program or build organizational capacity. Funding will not be awarded for campaigns, special events or to individual schools for capital projects.

Criteria

- Applicants must be 501(c)(3) organizations and/or a school or church providing support that relates directly to the above RFP focus.
- Grants will be made to organizations with efforts based in the Greater Cincinnati region which includes the counties of: Hamilton, Butler, Warren and Clermont in Ohio; Boone, Kenton and Campbell in Kentucky and Dearborn in Indiana.
- Proposals will be accepted to all/any organization that meets the criteria as well as aligns strongly with the details of this RFP.
- If your organization needs to utilize a fiscal agent, the fiscal agent itself must be the applicant.
- Priority will be given to proposals:
 - That involve collaboration between like organizations.
 - That aim to close educational achievement gaps.



- From organizations that have not been funded by a GCF RFP within the past 12 months.

Grant Limitations

GCF does not provide funding for the following purposes, entities or activities:

- Religious organizations that require religious activity for participation.
- Playgrounds, sports teams or sports activities.
- Regular operating or capital projects for Individual public, private or parochial schools or universities (including student clubs, school bands, booster clubs, PTAs, etc.)
- Vehicles.

Application Process

Respond to this RFP via [GCF's online grantmaking system](#) using the "GCF Responsive Grant Application. After creating a new account and/or logging in, complete all required fields and submit by the deadline listed in this RFP.

For "Request Category," select Educational Success RFP. Please clearly state which purpose this application is addressing in the "Alignment with the RFP" answer.

Upload the following four documents in the final section of the application:

- Project Budget
- Income Statement and Balance Sheet (Previous two Years)
- Most Recent Audit or 990
- Board List (with Demographics)

Finalists for the STEM grants will be requested to submit a three-to-five minute video that highlights the organization and the purpose of the grant.



RFP Timeline

Key Steps	Date
RFP Workshop at Center for Great Neighborhoods 321 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd, Covington, KY	September 5, 2018 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
RFP Workshop at GCF 200 W 4 th St., Cincinnati, OH	September 6, 2018 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Proposal Deadline	September 28, 2018, by 5:00 p.m.
Decision Communicated	Early December
Funding Received	By end of year

Questions

Please direct any questions that you may have to Evie Epifano, Program Manager, evie.epifano@gcfdn.org, 513-768-6125. Thank you for considering partnership with Greater Cincinnati Foundation and we look forward to learning from your submission.

GCF Mission

As a trusted and connected partner, we inspire generous people to invest in a more equitable and vibrant region, now and for generations to come.