



Release Date: January 6, 2021

## *Learning Links* Request for Proposals

Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) invites your school to apply for a Learning Links grant. These grant funds are available through the continuing support of Charles H. Dater Foundation. To be considered for funding, proposals must be submitted by **Monday, May 31, 2021 at 5:00pm.**

GCF invests in the expertise of trusted partners, such as our local schools, to build a more equitable region. One of the many ways we support our partners is by offering competitive grants that align with our donors' interest areas. Funding in these areas is made available through our Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

The maximum grant award for the 2021 Learning Links cycle is \$1,250, however we accept grant requests for lower amounts. Projects or events must take place during the 2021-2022 school year. Each school may submit up to two applications, either for two distinctly different programs or the same program for two different groups of students.

### **Funding Focus**

Proposals should explicitly address the following purpose:

- Purpose: Allow local K-12 educators the opportunity for creative, interesting projects or events they would like to bring to their school or classroom.

### **Use of Funds**

Funding may be used to support, expand or strengthen existing projects or events or launch new projects or events. Projects or events may be held in person or virtually. In addition to classroom programming, projects can include after-school programming and service-learning projects. Funding may also support capital costs for equipment or supplies which then become property of the school.



### Criteria

- Applicants must be teachers, principals and other educators at local schools serving students K-12.
- Schools must be located 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.
- Preference will be given to projects that:
  - Inspire innovative, creative and fun ideas that encourage student participation.
  - Promote diversity, multicultural or intergenerational events.
  - Projects or programs that boost student's academic performance.
  - Projects or programs that provide students opportunities to engage and serve the community.
  - Have lasting impact on students, the school and its staff.
- Proposals will be accepted by schools who meet the criteria and align strongly with the purpose of this RFP.
- Schools applying for funding should verify that all vendors paid with grant funds are on their district's approved vendor list.

### Application Process

Respond to this RFP via [GCF's online grantmaking system](#) using the "Learning Links Application". After creating a new account and/or logging in, complete the application and submit by the deadline listed in this RFP. Please reach out to GCF staff if you are unsure if your organization or school has an existing account.

Upload the Project Budget in the final section of the application. While not required, it is highly encouraged that you use the template provided.



### RFP Timeline

Key Steps	Date
RFP Release	January 6, 2021
Proposal Deadline	May 31, 2021
Volunteer Committee Review	June 2021
Decision Communicated	July 2021

### Questions

Answers to general questions are available on our website at [www.gcfnd.org/faq](http://www.gcfnd.org/faq).

We are here to be a resource throughout the application process. Please direct any additional questions that you may have to Rosie Polter, Program Officer, [rosie.polter@gcfnd.org](mailto:rosie.polter@gcfnd.org). This is the Program Officer leading this RFP process and should serve as your primary contact.

Questions about the Foundant system or process timeline can be directed to Shelby Graham, Community Strategies Coordinator, at [shelby.graham@gcfnd.org](mailto:shelby.graham@gcfnd.org). Thank you for considering partnership with GCF 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.