



Release Date: January 8, 2024

Learning Links

Request for Proposals

Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) invites your school or organization 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 **Friday, May 24, 2024, at 5:00pm.**

GCF invests in the expertise of trusted partners in the education space 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.

NEW IN 2024

Grants for the 2024 Learning Links cycle will be awarded up to \$2,500. Projects or events must take place from September 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025 *or* during the 2024-2025 school year. Each organization or school may only submit one application, but the program can be held in partnership with any number of schools, classrooms, or communities.

Funding Focus

Program proposals should explicitly address the following purpose:

- To provide engaging programs or events that support the educational success of children aged birth through 18 years, in classrooms, schools, or community spaces where children learn.

Use of Funds

Funding may be used to support, expand, or strengthen existing programs, purchase equipment or supplies, launch a new program, or build organizational capacity. For more specifics of what funding may be used for, please review our [Grant FAQs](#).

Criteria

- Applicants must be classified as tax-exempt by the IRS, typically 501(c)(3) status or government agency. If your organization is not a 501(c)(3) you may utilize a fiscal agent, however the fiscal agent must be identified in the application.
- Schools and/or organizations must be located or serving in the Greater Cincinnati region which includes the counties of: Hamilton, Butler, Warren and Clermont (OH); Boone, Kenton and Campbell (KY); and Dearborn (IN).
- Entities meeting the above criteria are welcome to apply; however, preference will be given to projects that:
 - Employ developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) in any programs serving children 0-8 years of age.
 - Have an explicit emphasis on growing children's and young people's social-emotional skills: e.g., co-regulation, communication, or conflict resolution.
 - Provide students' families and/or communities the opportunity to be involved with children's learning.

Application Process

Submit your application at www.gcfnd.org/Foundant using the "Learning Links Application." After creating a new account and/or logging in, **please complete and submit the application by Friday, May 24, 2024 at 5:00pm.**

Upload the following three (3) documents in the final section of the application:

- Most recent audit or 990
- Project budget
- Income statement and balance sheets from the previous two years, if possible

Templates are provided for the project budget, income statement and balance sheet. The use of these templates is optional, but encouraged.

RFP Timeline

Key Steps	Date
RFP Release	Monday, January 8, 2024
Proposal Deadline	Friday, May 24, 2024 - 5:00pm
Decision Communicated	June 2024
Funding Received	July - August 2024



Questions

Answers to general questions are available on our website at www.gcfdn.org/faq.

Please direct any additional questions that you may have to Isabella Frueh, Program Officer, at isabella.frueh@gcfdn.org. She is the GCF staff member leading this RFP process and should serve as your primary contact. Questions about the Foundant system or process timeline can be directed to Hannah Hilditch, Community Strategies Coordinator, at hannah.hilditch@gcfdn.org.

Thank you for considering partnership with GCF! 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.