

CHATHAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION

GRANT GUIDELINES

WHO CAN APPLY

Applications will be accepted from students, teachers, and administrators, visiting artists, scholars and members of the community.

WHEN CAN THEY APPLY

The application form is live year-round on the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation website www.berkshiretaconic.org/applyonline. This can also be accessed through the Chatham Education Foundation website www.chathameducationfoundation.com. Grant applications are read between September 20 and October 20 annually at which time the applications for the upcoming school year are closed.

GRANT INFORMATION

The Chatham Education Foundation (CEF) provides funds to supplement and enrich the educational experience of students and teachers. CEF hopes to be a catalyst for innovative thinking and thoughtful experimentation that generates excitement about learning.

Originating in 2002, the CEF is supported by two endowed funds: the Arts and Humanities Fund and the Alexander M. White Fund.

Through its larger Arts and Humanities Fund, CEF supports a wide variety of projects in the arts and humanities. The second endowed fund, The Alexander M. White Fund, provides funding for projects across **all** disciplines.

Grants from the Chatham Education Foundation will fund projects for which funds are not available in the Chatham Central School District.

Possible projects include, but are not limited to, any project that will enrich the school's education program i.e.: independent study; new

programs; extracurricular activities; individual creative projects; visiting speakers; artists in residence; new and innovative technology that is project related; professional development for teachers and, for program costs for field trips. *(Traditionally the School District covers the cost for the use of school buses of busing for transportation.)*

All projects are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. New projects are strongly encouraged and successful repeated projects are also eligible for consideration.

AWARDS

Grants awarded may range from \$100 to \$2,500. However, most grants average approximately \$1,000. Grant money may be used for materials, travel and associated costs. Preference will be given to projects that support the school district's educational goals.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- **Excellence:** Is the project or service truly of a high quality? Is it the right time for the project? Does it involve qualified individuals/groups?
- **Impact:** What is the potential impact of the project or service on the CCSD community? This does not mean the number of people involved, but rather the quality of the impact.
- **Ability:** Is the project well thought out and feasible?

The Chatham Education Foundation Governing Board, comprised of community members, parents, teachers, students, the Superintendent and a member of the District's Board of Education, will review applications. Our recommendations will be referred to Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's board of directors for final approval.

The funds of the Chatham Education Foundation are constituent funds of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. The funds are invested for long-term growth and the Foundation oversees the grant-making process to ensure transparency and the highest standards of conduct.

Berkshire Taconic does not support organizations which in their constitution, by-laws, or practice, discriminate against a person or group on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation or religious belief.