



BGCF365 Education Grant Opportunity

BGCF365, at Blue Grass Community Foundation, is accepting proposals from tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations and Title I Public Schools in Fayette County for projects/programs that improve student learning and remove obstacles to academic success for students of all ages. Such obstacles include, but are not limited to: transportation, food insecurity, physical and/or mental challenges, access to technology, language barriers, poverty and homelessness. Preference will be shown to proposals that focus on efforts to increase academic achievement among low-income, minority and English language learners. Applications will be limited to one per organization/school. Proposals from schools must have a school-wide benefit.

This will be a competitive grantmaking process. Grant applications will be reviewed by the BGCF365 Steering Committee and narrowed to five finalists. Representatives from the top 5 finalists will be *required* to present a short (maximum 10 minute) presentation to the members of BGCF365 at their annual meeting in January 2019. Grants will be awarded based on membership votes. The first and second place winners will receive \$10,000 and \$7,500 respectively. Prizes of \$2,500 will be given for third, fourth and fifth place.

Eligibility:

- Organization is located in Fayette County
- Organization is classified as a nonprofit charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code; or publicly supported organizations such as a school district or municipality
- Organization has a complete and up-to-date GoodGiving.net portrait. GoodGiving.net is a free, searchable database that contains current, transparent information about Kentucky nonprofits. Schools and exempt government units are not eligible to have GoodGiving.net portraits, but are eligible to apply for grants. These organizations will be required to provide supporting documentation as requested within the grant application. Please contact Barbara Fischer if your organization would like to create a GoodGiving.net portrait or has questions regarding an existing portrait: bfischer@bgcf.org or at (859) 225-3343.
- If the organization has previously received funding by a grant program at Blue Grass Community Foundation, organization must have completed a grant report
- Organization must be willing and able to present to the BGCF365 membership at the annual meeting in January 2019

How to Apply:

Visit the Blue Grass Community Foundation's website: <http://bgcf.org/learn/grantopportunities> and look for the online application link for the BGCF365 grant opportunity.

Deadline to apply: October 29, 2018, by 5:00 pm

Finalist Presentations: January 2019

Grant Period: January 2019 – September 30, 2019

Criteria for Review:

While the below list is not exhaustive, applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

The Organization (based on the organization's GoodGiving.net Portrait):

- Clearly demonstrates an ability to accomplish the proposed activities
- Evidence of board involvement and financial support
- Evidence of impact on the community
- Sound overall fiscal condition

The Project (based on the organization's online application):

- Clearly identifies and addresses obstacles to student achievement
- Demonstrates potential to improve student learning
- Benefits low-income, minority and English language learners
- Has a clearly outlined project plan and accompanying activities
- Clearly states the number and population served by the program/organization
- Identifies achievable, measurable outcomes and includes a deliberate plan for evaluating them
- Has a project budget that is clearly expressed and is appropriate in relation to the size of the project