



2018 HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS GUIDELINES

The economic well-being of individuals and communities is closely linked to educational attainment. The Foundation seeks to advance the well-being of the citizens of Kentucky by cultivating and establishing a nationally preeminent system of higher education that will prepare students to succeed in a global society. The Foundation makes grants with the goal of strengthening and enriching educational opportunities and outcomes provided by public and independent postsecondary institutions in Kentucky. Of interest are initiatives that address:

- affordability and access
- student success (transition, retention and completion)
- achievement gaps
- alignment with workforce needs
- continuing education
- essential skills & dispositions
- institutional niches (projects that are transformational to the institution, or that increase its competitiveness and/or create regional or national distinction)

The Foundation will consider a broad range of proposals focusing on these areas. Institutions may propose grants that help develop and/or pilot new programs, grants that enhance and/or scale existing programs, capacity building grants, as well as other funding mechanisms. The Foundation is especially interested in opportunities to leverage other public and private funding streams. Successful proposals will include:

- close alignment with the Foundation's areas of interest
- an intense focus on measurable outcomes and/or impact
- well-defined link to the institution's strategic plan and long-range goals

- clear monitoring and evaluation plan tied to proposed outcomes
- compelling evidence of institutional commitment and/or broad based philanthropic support
- detailed and reasonable analysis of sustainability beyond the grant period

Proposal Review Deadline, Process and Notification

- Applications must be submitted in final form online no later than **December 1, 2017**.
- Institutions will be notified of the Foundation's decision by **February 23, 2018**.
- In most cases, funds will be disbursed no later than **June 30, 2018**.

Application Procedures

Applications are by invitation. Please call the Foundation office at (502) 896-2440 ext. 5 to schedule an appointment to discuss a potential proposal. Institutions are strongly encouraged to initiate conversations with as much lead time as possible.