



2025-2026 Grant Guidelines and Application

The McCall-Donnelly Education Foundation (MDEF) is now accepting applications from tax exempt organizations (schools, nonprofits) for grant funding to support innovative projects in education. We invite proposals that align with one or more of the following categories:

1. **Academic Innovation:** This category supports innovative programs and projects that enhance learning, foster critical thinking, and prepare students for a dynamic future. Special consideration given for upper-level foreign language programs.
2. **Student Engagement and Well-being:** Initiatives that promote mental health, well-being, and a sense of belonging among students. Special consideration given to programs that promote kindness, social well-being and/or address bullying.
3. **Health & Nutrition:** Projects focused on innovative approaches to healthier lifestyles, particularly in nutrition. Special consideration given to programs that promote lifetime sports.
4. **Arts & Creativity:** Programs that encourage creative thinking and sustainable growth in the arts and music.

How to Apply

- **Application Form:** The application is available online at [MDEF.org](https://mdef.org). Please ensure all questions are answered and include a detailed budget.
- **Funding Range:** Grants must be between **\$2,500 and \$25,000**.
- **Required Signatures:** If your project involves McCall-Donnelly School District (MDSD) students, your application must be signed by the relevant school principal. Additional MDSD board approvals may apply — please consult the district office if uncertain.

Submission Details:

- Applications must be submitted **via email as a PDF attachment** to grants@mdef.org.
- Hard copies, incomplete applications, unsigned forms, or late submissions will **not be accepted**.
- Deadline: **Friday, March 14, 2025**.

Optional Project Review

If you would like feedback on your project outline before submitting a formal application, please contact the MDEF Grants Committee at grants@mdef.org or call Erin Roper at 208-315-3595 by **February 1, 2025**.

Grant Review & Award Timeline

- Grant decisions will be announced in **May 2025**.
- Funds will be available starting **June 1, 2025**, and must be fully utilized by **June 30, 2026**.



Use of Funds & Reporting Requirements

- Any changes to the originally proposed budget must be approved by MDEF in advance.
- Unused funds must be returned to MDEF by **June 30, 2026**.
- **Acknowledgment:** Grantees are required to credit MDEF in all external communications related to the funded project.
- **Reports:** An interim report is due by **January 31, 2026**, and a final report by **June 30, 2026**, detailing expenditures and outcomes. Reports are to include photos of the projects that are approved to be used for social media and fundraising collateral.

Score _____

Questions?

For any inquiries regarding the grant program or the application process, please reach out to Erin Roper at grants@mdef.org or 208-315-3595.

Applicant name:

Mailing address:

Contact:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

NOTE: If you are applying from an organization other than McCall-Donnelly School District, please attach proof of your organization's tax-exempt status.

Check the grant category this application represents:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Nutrition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Engagement and Well-being | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Creativity |



Project title: _____

1. Brief narrative or summary of the proposed project:

2. How is applicant affiliated with the McCall-Donnelly School District? If not directly affiliated, what grades/age children does your project benefit and in what communities?

3. Why is this project needed? Please share how you anticipate the project will impact students.



4. What are the proposed outcomes of the project and how will they be measured?

5. How is the project innovative and new in its approach to achieving its proposed outcomes?

6. What is the timeline for the project? When would funds be needed?



7. If only partial funding for the project is awarded, how will this affect the project?

8. Explain how the project will continue after the end of this year's grant funding?

9. Tell us why this project is exciting to you — include any additional information you would like us to know about the project.



Applicant's signature

Date

Principal's signature*

Date

*If the applicant is affiliated with the McCall-Donnelly School District, then their principal or superintendent must sign the grant application.

Proposed Project Budget

Budget item descriptions (Itemize)	Funds requested from MDEF	Matching funds provided by other sources (if any)	Total item cost (from all sources)
Totals:	MDEF Funds	Matching Funds	Total Cost

Total grant funds requested from MDEF: \$ _____