

Lumpkin County Education Foundation

Grant Call for Submissions — 2026–2027 School Year

OPENS
July 26, 2026

CLOSES
Sept 8, 2026 (11:59 PM)

AWARDS ANNOUNCED
Sept 16, 2026

TOTAL FUNDING
~\$20,000 Available

About LCEF

Established in 2014, the Lumpkin County Education Foundation (LCEF) is a private, non-profit charitable organization dedicated to enriching our children's educational opportunities in the Lumpkin County School System (LCSS). LCEF provides annual grants for broad-based enrichment projects, activities, or trips (referred to as "Projects"). Projects may relate to a specific class topic, be interdisciplinary, or departmental in scope. Eligible applicants may apply for grants to fund Projects. **BIG Projects are encouraged!** Notice of grant awards will be announced via email on Wednesday, September 16, 2026.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicant must be a licensed LCSS educator.
- Project designed to benefit a broad group of students: individual class, grade level team, entire grade level, or other cross-section of students.
- Project must be started and completed within the current school year.
- An educator may submit only one application per school year.
- Grants awarded from **\$500 – \$5,000**.

Restriction: Funds may not be used for salaries, personal tech (iPads/laptops), office supplies, or athletic programs.

Application & Scoring

Where to Apply: All applicants must apply online at www.lcedfoundation.org.

Scoring Process: Applications will be evaluated by the Retired Educators of Lumpkin County panel. Selection is based on the quality of the proposal, alignment with LCSS curriculum, creativity, and student engagement.

Review Requirements

Within one month of completion, recipients provide a review with at least two photos and a financial accounting. Pre-disbursement agreements required.

The Alice Sampson-Cordle Artist-in-Residence Grant

(Separately Funded Arts Grant)

Lifelong professional educator, Lumpkin County resident, and LCEF Board Member, Alice Sampson-Cordle was a force of nature. She was fiercely devoted to improving her community and showed up for LCEF in word and deed. When she passed in 2023, the Board of LCEF decided to honor Alice by creating a particularized

grant award for one of her especially favored sorts of Projects, the Artist-in-Residence. This grant is eligible for a maximum **\$5,000** award.

Why the Arts?

Each student learns differently. Through the arts, students develop self-confidence, critical thinking skills, discipline, academic success, interpersonal skills, and creativity, while complementing science, social studies, language, and math.

Why an Artist-in-Residence?

Residencies provide hands-on, innovative team experiences by "housing" an artist at the school. It offers both profound student enrichment and rewarding professional development for educators.

2025–2026 Recipient Spotlight: Cottrell Elementary librarian Jessica Conner for her project, *Exploring Global Cultures Through Art of Puppetry*, bringing the Center for Puppetry Arts program to all three elementary schools.

Questions? Contact lumpkineducationfoundation@gmail.com

Please visit www.lcedfoundation.org for more information about this special, local non-profit in our county!