

**FAST FUNDS
GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES and EXPECTATIONS**

Purpose	To provide up to \$500.00 in emergency funding to support projects that focus on academics, classroom/school resources, cultural events, educator support, school climate, social emotional learning, and other initiatives.
Award:	Up to \$500.
Key Criteria & Eligible Projects:	<p>Applicants must be invited to apply for a Fast Funds Grant from a member of headquarters staff or a Board of Directors Member. Review and award of grant materials will be based on the project’s anticipated need of supplies, resources, and opportunities/experiences to fulfill community needs and improve literacy rates.</p> <p>Grant expectations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure your Principal’s/Supervisor’s permission to apply for Fast Funds. • Create a detailed budget with a request for Fast Funds (not to exceed \$500). • Submit an application (electronically). • Follow disbursement requirements and spend all Fast Funds on or before May 22, 2026. <p>Projects must be conducted and supervised by a BCPS staff member or Baltimore County community member. Projects must address an identified need that is aligned with BCPS goals, The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, Inc.'s mission and vision, and the school’s progress plan (if applicable). The proposal must describe a quantitative and/or qualitative method to evaluate the project's success.</p>
Application Deadline:	<u>May 1, 2026</u>
Notification of Recipients:	Recipients will receive an e-mail notification from the foundation’s Associate Director, Dr. Heather Wooldridge, within 1-week of application submission.
Awarding of Materials:	Schools/Offices will pay for items with BCPS funds and submit a request for disbursement forms with receipts for reimbursement. The Foundation will not reimburse individuals.
Proposal Review:	Proposals will be reviewed by the Programs and Allocations Committee of The Education Foundation of BCPS, Inc. All applications will be scored by three committee members.
Initiative Summary:	<p>A final project summary and storyboard with photos and grant highlights must be submitted to The Education Foundation of BCPS, Inc. upon the conclusion of the initiative no later than <u>May 22, 2026</u> (A link to the summary and the storyboard template will be sent electronically to the grant recipient in the congratulatory e-mail notification).</p> <p>A grant recipient who does not submit a final project summary and storyboard <u>will not</u> be eligible for future funding consideration until both have been received.</p>

**FAST FUNDS
GRANT APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

DIRECTIONS:

Respond clearly and specifically to each of the statements/questions below, limiting your response to a maximum of two (2) typed pages. A rubric is attached for reference of assessment of the project.

1. Describe the project for which you are applying for Fast Funds. *(20 points)*
2. Describe how your selected project is aligned with BCPS goals, The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, Inc.'s mission and vision, and your school's progress plan (if applicable). *(20 points)*
3. Explain specifically who this project will impact the most and how. *(20 points)*
4. What is your measurable impact of the success of the project? *(20 points)*
5. Describe why funding for this project was not included in the budget planning for this school year. *(20 points)*

Budget Funding Details**

Provide a proposed estimated budget for the project in which the funds will be utilized, including the item, description, quantity, cost and total. The funding request not to exceed \$500.00. Complete the budget table below and upload it with your electronic application.

Proposed Estimated Budget for Project (Not to exceed \$500)				
Item	Description	Qty.	Cost	Total
			\$	\$
			\$	\$
			\$	\$
			\$	\$
			Total	\$

****NOTE:** Project funding may not replace normal funding from tax-based sources. Funds may cover travel, participation in events/activities, consulting fees, and speaker honorariums.

Funds may not cover personnel or any related expenses for BCPS staff, including gift cards and food/beverages. If food is purchased for students, it must align with USDA health regulations. Projects must be conducted and supervised by BCPS professional personnel who work directly with students, including teachers, school counselors, media specialists, nurses, etc.

All decisions for use of the funding must align with the Foundation's vision/mission/goals/values and districtwide initiatives as stated by the Superintendent's vision.

Self-Checklist for Completion of Application

Project application is appropriate for submission if the following questions can be answered in the affirmative:	YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have permission from my Principal/Supervisor to apply for Fast Funds. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal clearly describes the project and how it relates to at least one of the following: Academics; Classroom/School Resource; Cultural Event; Educator Support; School Climate; Social Emotional Learning; or other initiative that aligns with the goals of BCPS, The Foundation’s mission and vision, and my School’s/Offices Progress Plan. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal clearly explains who this project will impact the most and how. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal articulates the measurable impact of the success of the project. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal articulates why funding for this project was not included in the budget planning for this school year. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The budget is detailed and accurate and the proposal does not ask for more than \$500.00 		

FAT FUNDS | GRANT RUBRIC

Key Criteria	4	3	2	1	Score
Description of Selected Project and Resources Needed 20 Points	Describes a need for the selected project to support, and the resources needed for implementation. 13-20 points	Describes a need that somewhat addresses the selected project to support, and the resources needed for implementation. 5-12 points	Does not describe a need that addresses the selected project to support, and the resources needed for implementation. 1-4 points	No reference to a need or resources needed for implementation. 0 points	/20
Explanation of How Project Addresses Identified Need with Alignment 20 Points	Explanation is consistent with BCPS goals, aligned with the ED Foundation’s mission and vision, and the school’s progress plan. 13-20 points	Explanation is somewhat consistent with BCPS goals and somewhat aligned with the Ed Foundation’s mission and vision, and the school’s progress plan. 5-12 points	Explanation is not consistent with BCPS goals nor aligned with the ED Foundation’s mission and vision, and the school’s progress plan. 1-4 points	Does not explain how and is not consistent with BCPS goals nor aligned with the ED Foundation's mission and vision, and the school’s progress plan. 0 points	/20
Impact of the Project and How? 20 Points	Project has the potential to impact a large number of students academically and social-emotionally within the classroom/schoolhouse making an impact. 13-20 points	Project has the potential to impact a large number of students either academically or social-emotionally within the classroom/schoolhouse with some impact. 5-12 points	Project has the potential to impact a minimal number of students either academically or social-emotionally within the classroom/schoolhouse with little impact. 1-4 points	Project does not have the potential to impact a large number of students nor address potential academic or social-emotional impact on students. 0 points	/20
Measurable Impact for Success 20 Points	Objectives are clearly defined, attainable, and address the stated needs for the project. Educational outcomes are stated and are measurable. 13-20 points	Objectives are defined and address the stated needs for the project. Educational outcomes are stated with very little measurable outcomes. 5-12 points	Objectives are defined. Educational outcomes are not clearly stated and cannot be measured effectively. 1-4 points	Objectives are not clear. No measurable outcomes are included. 0 points	/20
Funding Need 20 Points	The need for funding is clearly addressed. 13-20 points	Most of the need for funding is addressed. 5-12 points	Some of the need for funding is addressed. 1-4 points	The need for funding is not addressed. 0 points	/20
				TOTAL	/100



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