



Education Grant

2026 Guidelines and Criteria

Who Can Apply?

The Diocese of Erie (Offices); Catholic Parishes and Catholic Schools in the diocese

Grants are available for funding towards religious education projects and ministry training/spiritual formation opportunities that benefit people within the 13 counties of the Diocese of Erie. Projects must fit at least one of the following four categories:

- Religious education and faith formation projects
- Technology for parish faith formation programs and for Catholic schools
Note: Two (2) bids/proposals are required when applying for technology funding **in excess of \$5,000**.
- Lay ministry education, training and worship formation including education toward obtaining professional ministry certifications, attending workshops, conferences, and spiritual formation opportunities.

Priority is given to:

- Projects that reach a wide audience or are collaborative across parishes or schools.
- Projects with multiple funding sources and/or demonstrate sustainability when funding ends.
- Organizations who have not received an Education grant in the last funding cycle.
- Projects that are compatible with diocesan priorities.

The minimum grant award is \$500. The maximum grant award for projects involving one organization is \$15,000. The maximum grant award for projects involving more than one organization is \$20,000.

2026 Spring Education Grant Cycle



2026 Fall Education Grant Cycle



Requirements

- Pastor, school principal/president, or diocesan office supervisor must be aware of the grant request and give their approval by signing the project endorsement form included in the application.
- Funds are released to the parish, school, or diocese only with a signed grant agreement on file at the Foundation.
- A follow-up grant report from the grantee is required for every grant awarded by the Foundation.

Funding Exclusions**

- Existing staff salaries
- Emergency grants, Capital campaigns/projects
- Funding a multi-year advanced degree program
- Individuals
- Projects not affiliated with a parish, school, or office of the Diocese of Erie
- Anything completed, purchased, or accomplished prior to date grants are awarded
- Individual tuition assistance

****This is not an exhaustive list. Catholic Foundation staff, grant committee, and Board of Directors will determine inclusions and exclusions.**

How to Apply

Applications are accepted online through the Catholic Foundation website: www.MyCatholicFoundation.org.

Questions? Contact Julia Cooney, Operations Director, at 814-824-1253 or jcooney@cfnwpa.org.