

**The REACH Fund**  
**at the**  
**Polk County Community Foundation**

**- 2008 -**

The REACH Fund is a non-endowed fund that was established at the Polk County Community Foundation in 2002 by anonymous donors who wish to provide deserving Polk County students (rising 4<sup>th</sup> grade – rising 12<sup>th</sup> grade) with opportunities to help them reach their potential and develop their talents.

The ideal candidate is a capable student who would benefit enormously from the boost of an extracurricular educational opportunity to develop a talent. Students may request funds to develop an existing talent for poetry, writing, music, art, science, general academics, sports or the like.

The program or activity selected should help the student to reach new heights in the chosen activity and to open new worlds to the student. The activity may be an overnight camp, a day camp, lessons, an opportunity to travel with a group of students with similar talents on a program developing or demonstrating these talents or the like.

This fund is meant to reach students who are unable to fund such experiences, but who will value such experiences.

Grants will not be awarded for general travel experiences unrelated to the development of a particular talent.

Preference will be given to employees of Tryon Estates who have been employed at that facility for at least one year, and also to children of employees. (Students who qualify for the Tryon Estates preference may reside outside of Polk County provided they live within the service area of the Polk County Community Foundation.) Grants will be awarded in amounts up to \$500.

**Grants are subject to available funds. Please contact the Community Foundation before completing this application to make sure there is money left in this fund.**

**Please answer each question within the space provided. Please type or print clearly.**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Age:\_\_\_\_\_ Grade:\_\_\_\_\_ School:\_\_\_\_\_

Home Mailing Address:\_\_\_\_\_

Your Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_

Do you or your parents work at Tryon Estates? \_\_\_\_\_ Please give the names of Tryon Estates employees, their relationship to you, and tell us how long they have worked there.

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What is your talent? \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the extracurricular activity or experience for which you would like a grant from The REACH Fund.

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Activity Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount needed to participate in activity: \_\_\_\_\_.

Amount Requested from The REACH Fund: \_\_\_\_\_.

If you receive a grant, will you write a letter of thanks to the donors who established the REACH Fund? \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED: Please attach a brief essay (fewer than 200 words) on why participation in this activity is important to you.**

**REQUIRED: Please attach a letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope from a current or former teacher who knows about your talent. This letter should state your talent and explain why and how this experience will help you develop your talent.**

I state that all information in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that an incomplete application will not be considered and that I must provide my social security number to the foundation in order to release funds, if awarded.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Need is a criteria of the REACH Fund. Please review the attached Income Eligibility Guidelines and check the box below if your family's income falls within these guidelines.

Yes  No

The other way to demonstrate that you need this grant to pay for the experience:

You work for a non-family business during the school year:

Yes  No

Name of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of hours per week: \_\_\_\_\_

I state that all information in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I will allow and encourage my student to participate fully in this experience if it is funded.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

If this grant is funded, money will be paid to the organization directly. Please provide the name and address and phone number of the organization or person who will be providing this experience for the student so that we may send a check to that organization or person.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Individual or Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

**Please contact us for more information concerning deadlines.**

**Please send applications to:**

**Polk County Community Foundation  
255 South Trade St.  
Tryon, NC 28782**

**Phone: 828-859-5314 • Fax: 828-859-6122**

**Email: [foundation@polkccf.org](mailto:foundation@polkccf.org) • Web: [www.polkccf.org](http://www.polkccf.org)**

**Applications will not be accepted by e-mail or fax.**

## Income Eligibility Guidelines

Family Size (adults and children)	Gross Household Income Per Year	Gross Household Income Per Week
2	\$40,000	\$770
3	\$45,000	\$860
4	\$50,000	\$960
5	\$55,000	\$1,060
<b>Each additional household member add:</b>		
	\$5,000	\$100