

# Franklin-Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation, Inc.

## GRANT APPLICATION COVER PAGE

*Application must be typed. If you experience difficulty completing, please contact our office at email [fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com](mailto:fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com)*

**Applicant Name & Position:**

Lucina Eversman, Family Resource Coordinator

**School/Non-Profit Organization**

**Involved:** Franklin Elementary School/Dolly Parton's Imagination Library **Amount Requested:**

\$6,000

**Purpose of Funding:** Enrollment of children ages birth to 5 years old to receive 1 book each month for 5 years

**Targeted Grade Levels:** PreK-K 1-3 4-5 6-8 9-12 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Students/Persons Affected by Grant:** 651 currently enrolled/549 eligible/1200 total children

**Academic Area:** Reading Language Arts Social Studies Math  
Science Fine arts Community Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Summary of Project (2 - 3 Sentences):**

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails 1 free book each month to registered children ages 0-5 years old. These books encourage early childhood literacy and supports kindergarten readiness. This program provides an opportunity for parent-child engagement in the home, and for children to receive books who may otherwise not have the opportunity for educational exposure prior to kindergarten.

**Address of School/Organization:** 211 S. Main Street Franklin, KY 42134

**Contact Person:** Lucinda Eversman

**Phone: (Day & Evening)** 270-586-2026/502-229-2788

**Fax:** 270-586-3246

**E-Mail:** [lucinda.eversman@simpson.kyschools.us](mailto:lucinda.eversman@simpson.kyschools.us)

**Grant Cycle Submitted:** September November February April

**Required Signatures**

***Simpson County Schools:***

Principal/Supervisor Jane Anderson Date 2/4/2025

Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date 02-13-25

**Community 501c3 Non-Profit Organizations:**

Grant Preparer Lucinda Persman Title Family Resource Coordinator Date 1/31/25

Board Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Title Chairperson Date 02-13-25

PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO CREATE YOUR GRANT APPLICATION.

**Writing Guidelines**

- 1) Application is complete and follows format outlined below, two to four pages in length, postmarked by deadline, includes 12 copies (one for each director & staff) or digital media and one hard copy including signed cover sheet.
- 2) Demonstrates innovative and/or program/curriculum or identifiable need.
- 3) Clearly defines learning goals and offers a meaningful way to measure success.
- 4) Clearly defines an area of need for students, school, or community.
- 5) Simpson County Schools applicants **MUST** include signatures of principal & board approval **before submitting to FSEEF.** (See Important Considerations below.)

**A. NARRATIVE: Choose Option I or II depending on organization's status:**

**I. SIMPSON COUNTY SCHOOLS AND PERSONNEL**

***Describe Your Request***

- 1) Describe the problem(s) or need(s) addressed by this request. Be sure to:
  - a. State your school's mission.
  - b. Clearly describe how this program/project will help your school to carry out its mission
- 2) Describe in detail the specific activities and strategies of this project, 3) Incorporate a **timeline** for implementation.
- 4) Describe in detail the expected outcome/goals of your project and how these outcomes will be measured.

**OR**

**II. COMMUNITY 501c3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

***Organizational History and Structure***

- 1) Briefly describe your organization's purpose, mission, and goals.
- 2) Is your organization tax-exempt?
- 3) Detail your sources of total program funding/ financial support.
- 4) Provide a list of board members and staff as an attachment.

***Describe Your Request***

- 1) Describe the problem(s) or need(s) addressed by this request.
- 2) Describe the specific activities and strategies of this project.
- 3) Incorporate a **timeline** for implementation.

- 4) Describe the expected outcome/goals of your project. Explain how the outcomes will help meet your organization's mission.

**B. EVALUATION**

- 1) Please describe the evaluation method you will use to measure the success of your project. What questions will be answered?

**C. BUDGET—Must be reasonable for scope of project and number of learners affected.**

- 1) Provide a **detailed** budget of how you plan to use the requested funding to ensure the success of your proposed project. Applicants may attach estimates, quotes or data collected online to support budget projections. Attachments DO NOT replace a constructed project budget.
- 2) Please indicate any other sources of funding you are seeking for this project and the amounts anticipated from those sources.

**D. APPLICATION SUMMARY**—The mission of the Franklin Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation, Inc. is “to supplement existing educational opportunities through funding to educators and community organizations in order to facilitate effective learning.” Applicants should clearly discuss how the proposed project meets not only their school/organization's mission statement, but also how it meets FSEEF's mission.

**IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS** for completing your proposal:

- FSEEF funds learner-directed projects. Applicants should not submit for travel, training, “bricks and mortar,” or salaries UNLESS it can be justified clearly and completely as an integral part of the project.
- Applicants must follow the format outlined in this application packet. A completed cover sheet must be included in addition to the narrative portion which addresses A-D in outline above. Failure to submit a complete application will result in application being returned for revision to meet the established guidelines and will delay consideration until the next cycle.
- Out of fairness to all applicants, FSEEF board members should not be asked to review applications prior to submission.
- Applications will be reviewed in order received. Early submission is encouraged.

*Grant applications will be compiled and reviewed on a quarterly basis as indicated below.*

<b><i>2024-2025 FSEEF Meeting Dates for Grant Review</i></b>	<b><i>Grant Must Be Submitted by 2:00 p.m on this date</i></b>
<i>8/26/2024</i>	<i>8/19/2024</i>
<i>9/23/2024</i>	<i>9/16/2024</i>
<i>10/28/2024</i>	<i>10/21/2024</i>
<i>11/25/2024</i>	<i>11/18/2024</i>
<i>12/23/2024</i>	<i>12/16/2024</i>
<i>1/27/2025</i>	<i>1/20/2025</i>
<i>2/24/2025</i>	<i>2/17/2025</i>
<i>3/24/2025</i>	<i>3/17/2024</i>
<i>4/28/2025</i>	<i>4/21/2025</i>

*\*\*Applications submitted by Simpson County Schools personnel MUST have board of education approval PRIOR to submission to FSEEF. Contact the Central Office to have approval of your application included on the board agenda. Central Office will need a copy of your proposal to be signed by the superintendent after board approval. Board of Education meeting dates are subject to change. Applicant is then responsible for submitting the SIGNED proposal to FSEEF.*

*Allow a 1-2 week review period. All applicants will be contacted within one week of grant review meeting.*

*Send completed application and 12 copies to:*  
**FSEEF Grant Applications, P.O. Box 94, Franklin, KY 42135-0094**  
*or e-mail to [fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com](mailto:fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com)*

We want the children in Simpson County to have the opportunity to be exposed to books at an early age to potentially raise literacy rates in the future. Simpson County currently has 23% of adults reading at or below a third grade level. Per 2023 KY Stats Early Childhood profile, 45% of children were ready for kindergarten and 55.5% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders were reading at a proficient level in Simpson County. To increase literacy rates, the existence of an effective primary education system and other programs are necessary to enable a large part of the population to acquire the written word in daily life. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is one of those amazing programs that helps place books in the hands of children. Any child from birth to 5 years of age, at no cost to the participant, is eligible to receive this wonderful opportunity. Dolly Parton founded Imagination Library as a tribute to her father who was illiterate. Dolly states that her dream is for every child to grow up in a home full of books. This organization gives 1 book a month to over 36 million children around the world. In Simpson County there are approximately 1,200 eligible children to receive this program. To date, have graduated 1,855 participants from the program. The cost for this program is \$2.60 per book or \$31.20 a year per child. We have been so incredibly fortunate to have generous sponsors to help fund this program throughout the years: Franklin Simpson Educational Excellence Foundation, Simpson County Schools, the Rotary Club of Simpson County, and the Community Early Childhood Council. Currently, there are 651 children in Simpson County enrolled. The cost to continue sponsoring them will be \$20,311.20 per year. We need to fundraise this amount to keep these kids receiving their monthly book. Registration is open for the remaining 549 eligible children. The chart below breaks down the current cost and the additional cost to be able to increase enrollment to all children in Simpson County.

<b><i>Imagination Library</i></b>	<b><i>Total Children</i></b>	<b><i>Total amount to sponsor</i></b>
Children currently enrolled	651	\$20,311.20
Eligible children not enrolled	549	\$17,128.80
<b>Total:</b>	1200	\$37,440
<b>Possible donations</b>		0
<b>Final Amount Requested:</b>		<b>\$6,000</b>

We want to ensure that the children of Simpson County have every opportunity to succeed. If a child is read to or simply has the access to independently look at books it will increase their chance of being successful. Books also open a child's imagination. In today's world, we are technology driven. The placement of a real book that a child can actually touch and flip through the pages should never be completely replaced by a computer.