

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

Applicant Name & Position: DarBy Haas - MSD teacher @ SES

School/Organization Involved: Simpson Elementary School

Amount Requested: \$2,408.00

Purpose of Funding: Equine Assisted Therapy

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

Number of Students/Persons Affected by Grant: 9

Academic Area: Reading Language Arts Social Studies Math
Science Fine arts Community Other: Speech

Brief Summary of Project (2 - 3 Sentences):

Students are given the opportunity to ride horses and exhibit abilities.
Physical Therapy

Address of School/Organization: _____

Contact Person: DarBy Haas

Phone: (Day & Evening) 270 993 8512 **Fax:** _____

E-Mail: darby.haas@simpson.kyschools.us

Grant Cycle Submitted: September November February April

Required Signatures

Simpson County Schools:

Principal/Supervisor [Signature] **Date** 1/12/26

Superintendent _____ **Date** _____

Community Organizations:

Grant Preparer _____ **Title** _____ **Date** _____

Board Representative _____ **Title** _____ **Date** _____

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 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.

<i>2025-2026 FSEEF Meeting Dates for Grant Review</i>	<i>Grant Must Be Submitted by 2:00 p.m on this date</i>
<i>8/25/2025</i>	<i>8/15/2025</i>
<i>9/22/2025</i>	<i>9/12/2025</i>
<i>10/27/2025</i>	<i>10/17/2025</i>
<i>11/24/2025</i>	<i>11/14/2025</i>
<i>12/22/2025</i>	<i>12/12/2025</i>
<i>1/26/2026</i>	<i>1/16/2026</i>
<i>2/23/2026</i>	<i>2/13/2026</i>
<i>3/23/2026</i>	<i>3/13/2026</i>
<i>4/27/2026</i>	<i>4/17/2026</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 applications to:
FSEEF Grant Applications, P.O. Box 94, Franklin, KY 42135-0094
 or e-mail to **fseducationalexcellence@gmail.com**

A: Narrative- Simpson County Schools and Personnel

I: 1

A) Our school vision at Simpson Elementary is: to develop students to become life-ready in an environment where everyone is honest, responsible, respectful, and safe. Our Mission is to spark each student to be ready for success. The mission at New Beginnings Therapeutic Riding is: to enhance individuals lives through equine assisted activities and therapies to help them discover their abilities and talents. New Beginnings works with mental, physical, emotional and behavior disabilities.

B) Students in the moderate to severe classroom are limited to activities inside and outside of the school walls due to sensory issues, mental deficits, behavior, and physical boundaries. New Beginnings Therapeutic Riding is a welcoming place where students can grow, learn, and build confidence. Students have the opportunity to groom and ride horses while learning proper horse care and responsibility. Through these activities, they develop important social skills and improve physical abilities such as balance, strength, coordination, and communication. Our students are learning how to be responsible by preparing the horse to ride and then cooling down and grooming the horse at the end of the session. They learn to respect the volunteers and the horses throughout the riding session. Students communicate with volunteers while practicing manners and turn taking. Students learn boundaries with horses and volunteers which allows them to learn to be safe.

2. Students are able to break into two small groups while we are at New Beginnings, one group works with horses while the other group has a lesson or educational task to complete. The students have a school lunch and then they switch activities. Students with the horses will groom the horse, get the appropriate saddle, reins etc, and dress the horse. Students will then find their helmets and walk the horses to the arena. Once inside the arena students mount the horses and the lessons begin. Through communication with the lead at New Beginnings we are able to work on educational tasks as well as physical tasks while the students are riding horses. Students may have to recognize numbers, letters, directions, etc at stations then communicate with both the horse and the volunteer to move to the next activity.

3. Through this grant, the class of 9 students will be able to take 4 trips to New Beginnings. We would go one day a week from mid April into May depending on the volunteer availability. The students arrive at school by 8:00am. We eat breakfast, take care of personal hygiene needs, do morning stretches and then board the bus around 9:00am. We arrive at New Beginnings around 10:00am, we break into two groups, then begin our time. We have lunch around 11-11:30 and

then the groups swap. Around 1:00 we load the bus and head back to Simpson Elementary. We debrief by drawing, writing, coloring, or using a device to describe our experience.

4. Students with moderate to severe disabilities have daily challenges that many of us fail to notice. Communication plays a key role in our students' daily success. Some students can only communicate with facial expressions and gestures, some with an augmentative and alternative communication device, some with broken phrases, and some with full sentences. In this classroom we measure success by ability to have needs/wants met independently. Throughout the riding lesson students communicate with new people and learn to express themselves without direct teacher support. Students will also be working towards following directions in both one step and multi step directions for those that are able. Listening comprehension is an essential skill in both academics and social interactions that students need more time to practice in real life situations. Students will increase their core strength through riding and will have physical challenges to overcome throughout the session. The lead volunteer will use a rubric to measure success with each student and students will be rated on the same skills during the lesson/task performed when they are not riding.

B) Evaluation:

Students will have a daily rubric to be completed by the lead volunteer each session and also a score based on participation during the lesson/tasks when they are not riding. The goal is to allow students to be as independent as possible with communication, turn taking, being responsible, and being respectful in a new and changing environment. Students who struggle will work on specific skills at school to enhance the next week's session. The outcome is a new learning environment for our students who have limited opportunities to be involved in age appropriate adventures. With the rubric being used we will be able to determine what the students strengths and weaknesses are outside of our school walls, then we can focus on lessons, skills, and practice at school to help encourage our students in the areas of weakness.

C) Budget:

- 1) Lessons are \$40 per student and we have 9 students. Four sessions for 9 students would be \$1440.

The transportation department has sent an estimated trip budget for both the bus and the driver. Each session transportation plus the drive will cost approximately \$242. We will plan to go 4 times, the total would be \$968. We must take a special needs bus with a lift to accommodate all of our students.

Lessons (\$1440) plus transportation (\$968) = \$2,408.00

- 2) At this time we are not seeking funding from other 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.”

Effective learning for students with moderate to severe disabilities often requires us to think outside the box of typical activities and opportunities for students. The foundations' mission to supplement educational opportunities for all students would be met through this grant. Students have a very structured learning environment and deserve an opportunity to show their areas of strength in a supported and fun environment that they may never have the opportunity to experience without this grant.

Rider: _____

Date: _____

Scale of 1-3

1- Student put forth little effort

2- Student tried and was successful at times

3- Student tried hard and was successful the majority of the time

	Riding Horses	Lesson/Task
Communication- did they express their needs and wants? Did they direct the horse as you asked?		
Listening/ following directions- did the student follow directives?		
Physical- students attempted balance and activities while on horse		

Comments: _____
