POLK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2026 GRANTS DATES & DOLLARS

	1ST QTR GRANTS & SLATER AWARDS	2ND QTR GRANTS & ADULT SCHOLARSHIPS	3RD QTR GRANTS	4TH QTR HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS
APPLICATION DEADLINE	January 8	April 1	July 1	September 30
INTERVIEWS POSSIBLE	February 9-12 & 23-25 (Grants) March 17-19 (Slater)	May 5-7 & 18-21	August 4-6 & 17-20	N/A
DECISIONS AVAILABLE	March 27	June 26	September 25	December 18

HOW TO APPLY

❶ **Submit a Letter of Intent** to confirm that your organization is eligible to apply for grants** and that your project meets the criteria for one or more of our available grantmaking funds. Visit polkccf.org/applications for details on how to submit this.

❷ **Receive Confirmation** that your project meets the Foundation's criteria for funding. Contact our Director of Grants with questions about the grantmaking process. Email Noah Wood at grants@polkccf.org or call 828-859-5314 x 226.

❸ **Submit a Grant Application** by the deadlines noted above. Applications must be submitted online by accessing our Grants portal at polkccf.org/applications. All applications are due by 5:00 pm on the dates indicated.

*** Organizations new to the Foundation should contact us about grant eligibility as a first step. We have a committee review process to evaluate newly formed nonprofits or organizations that don't have a grantmaking history with the Foundation. Letters of Intent are not required for Slater Awards.*

GRANT & SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE

Grant Programs Brief Description *(See grant guidelines for more detail*	Funds Available
GENERAL INTEREST GRANTS	
Unrestricted Grants Projects that enhance the quality of life in our community	Up to $100,000 per cycle
AREA OF INTEREST GRANTS	
Dr. William R. Bosien Fund Health education and other community health projects	$34,700
Culberson Agricultural Development Fund Agricultural development projects	$6,250
Mary F. Kessler Fund For certain projects that benefit Tryon and Landrum community members	Up to $70,000 per cycle
Saluda Community Fund For organizations located in and serving Saluda	$72,400
Student Intern Program Funds for agencies to hire local high school students as interns	$36,000
Donor Driven Field of Interest Funds Grants from other donor funds may be awarded as they are available	Varies by Fund
Bradley Endowment Fund *(Contact us for details)* For projects & planning studies with generations-long community impact	Large grants available
GRANTS FOR FREE EVENTS	
Free Community Events Free gatherings in Polk County & Landrum	$3,000-$8,000 per project
Kirby Civic Events Free civic events in the Tryon area	$4,000
Kirby Harmon Field Fund Free activities for youth at Harmon Field	$10,100
Kirby Rogers Park Fund Free events at Rogers Park	$13,300
CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS	
Grantwriting for Public Safety Organizations To enhance public safety organizations' receipt of non-local grants	$5,000
Organizational Strengthening & Board Planning Strategic Planning & Board Retreats for long-term success	$3,000-$8,000 per project
North Carolina Center for Nonprofits *(Grants awarded on a rolling basis)* Center memberships for local 501(c)(3) organizations	$725 maximum
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS	
Scholarships for Adults Going Back to School *(Details online)* 2026 applications due & award decisions available in the 2nd QTR of 2026	$1,000 minimum award
Scholarships for Graduating High School Seniors *(Details online)* Class of 2027 applications due & award decisions available in the 4th QTR of 2026	$1,000 minimum award
AFS Study Abroad Scholarships For local high school students to study abroad through AFS-USA	100% of program fees
GRANTS FOR TEACHERS	
Slater Excellence in Teaching Awards For Polk County & Landrum teacher educational travel & conferences	$40,000

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