Grantmakers FOR EDUCATION

Ignite possibility.

We are a community of hundreds of strong and diverse organizations bringing bold thinking and brave ideas to learners across America.

Get to Know Us

WHO WE ARE
Grantmakers for Education (EdFunders) is the largest forum in education philanthropy.

Since our very start in 1995, we have strived to prepare our members for the challenges and opportunities they face in serving learners across the nation.

OUR VISION
Our vision is for all learners to thrive in education systems that are equitable and just, supported by funders who are equipped with the knowledge and connections to advance transformation.

OUR MISSION
We catalyze learning, foster connections and create opportunities for members to collectively advance effective, strategic and equity-centered grantmaking in the field of education.

Our Guiding Principles

- We unite for equity and justice.
- We inspire breakthroughs.
- We are a compass.
- We support united action.
- We champion the cause.

Top 10 Ways to Enhance Your Work with EdFunders

1. Join your peers at the largest education grantmakers event in the country – EdFunders' annual conference.
2. Move the field in new directions by jointly building on knowledge and resources with impact groups.
3. Be among the first to receive EdFunders' original research and analysis.
4. Present a session at the annual conference to share highlights of your work.
5. Participate in site visits, learning tours and other experiential learning to broaden your knowledge of the education landscape.
6. Enjoy preferred event rates and discounted subscriptions.
7. Share your events, resources and job openings with the EdFunders community.
8. Receive timely information conveniently to your in-box to stay up to date on the field.
9. Share your expertise by leading an EdFunders webinar.
10. Collaborate and connect with a diverse set of leaders in education philanthropy.

WHAT OUR MEMBERS SAY:

"Grantmakers for Education offers a high-quality learning agenda for its members and provides meaningful opportunities to network with other funders. [These] strengthen relationships that could lead to collaborative work."

Be a Catalyst for Justice

Be part of a vibrant community of hundreds of education grantmaking organizations and thousands of grantmakers that seek to make a difference for learners, cradle to career, in public education.

WHAT OUR MEMBERS SAY:

Grantmakers for Education has hosted some really compelling webinars on equity issues, enabling me to grow as a person and to think more critically about our grantmaking strategies and the culture of our foundation.

OUR MEMBERS:

Are located around the United States and territories with regional, national and international focus

Range from family foundations to corporate, private and community foundations to philanthropic venture funds

Include program officers, managers, executives, board & trustees who center equity in their work

Invest in pressing issues in education like access, opportunity, economic development, equity and community voices

Our Theory of Action

We believe that the systemic inequities within the education system reflect the inequities within our larger society and that education grantmakers should invest in solutions that address root causes. As Grantmakers for Education, we must maintain our direct focus on education issues, while making connections to larger systemic challenges that shape students' opportunities to learn and thrive.

Our Key Strategies

CENTERING EQUITY & ANTI-RACISM

This commitment guides our support for changes in education philanthropy. It shows up as building staff, board and member capacity and elevates diverse member voices.

DEEPER LEARNING

Our programming serves as a platform for deeper learning and connection among members. We focus on building skills, knowledge and relationships that support members who invest in systems change in education.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

We analyze cross-network trends and engage in partnerships to strengthen funders' commitments to education and their capacity to move the field forward.

Our Staff

We have a small but mighty staff located strategically throughout the country, bringing diverse backgrounds and a wealth of experience to our mission. We are led by Executive Director Nicole Rodriguez Leach, who has forged the way in equity and justice for over two decades through her leadership in philanthropy, nonprofits and education.

Our Board

BOARD OFFICERS

Sara Sneed
Chairperson
President and CEO
The NEA Foundation

Danielle Pulliam
Secretary
Senior Program Officer
The Pinkerton Foundation

Shawn Morehead
Treasurer
President and CEO
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

BOARD MEMBERS

Isa Ellis
Deputy Director of Pathways
Gates Foundation

Elizabeth González
Chief Program and Strategy Officer
College Futures Foundation

Chauncy Lennon
Vice President for Learning and Work and Senior Strategy Advisor
Lumina Foundation

Katrina Mitchell
Director, Atlanta Civic Site
Annie E. Casey Foundation

William Moses
Managing Director - Education
The Kresge Foundation

Gisele Shorter
President and CEO
Nellie Mae Education Foundation

Vivian Tseng
President and CEO
Foundation for Child Development

Kenita Williams
Chief Operating Officer
Southern Education Foundation

You're Invited

"I invite you to become a member of Grantmakers for Education. We can be your partner in taking concrete actions, large and small, to shape equitable systems that will support all learners with access and pathways to guide their future. There is no better time to collaborate and strengthen your work within the Grantmakers for Education network."

Kyle Malone (he/him), kmalone@edfunders.org
External Affairs Director

WHY JOIN GRANTMAKERS FOR EDUCATION?

Thousands of education funders have deepened their knowledge and connections through our many offerings:

Annual Conference

Affinity Spaces

Impact Groups

Peer Learning & Networking

In-Person & Online Events

Field Leadership

Professional Development

Partnerships in & Beyond the Field

Invest in Change

General membership is open to grantmaking entities that provide charitable support to causes across the education spectrum. In order to be eligible for membership, an entity must devote at least 30% of its annual budget to grantmaking or award more than $100,000 in grants annually.

MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULE*

Total Organizational Grantmaking and Operational Budget	Dues Level
<$500K	$630
$500K - 999.9K	$950
$1M - 2.49M	$1,250
$2.5M - 4.9M	$1,900
$5M - 9.9M	$2,900
$10M - 19.9M	$4,500
$20M - 29.9M	$6,000
$30M - 39.9M	$8,000
$40M+	$11,750

90%

OF MEMBERS CHOOSE TO REJOIN EDFUNDERS EACH YEAR*

**Average yearly renewal rate from 2018-2023*

Membership dues are calculated on the total grantmaking budget and program operation costs from the most recently filed organizational 990 form. Due to the unique structure of community foundations, membership fees are based on the discretionary budget rather than the total grantmaking or education grantmaking budgets.

**Through December 31, 2026. Our membership period operates on a calendar year basis (January through December).*

Begin your journey today.

We accept membership applications on a rolling basis.

Please set aside about 15 minutes to complete the online application. We will ask questions around your organization's budget, giving strategy and priorities so make sure to have your organizational materials handy.

You'll hear from us within about two business days from submitting your application.
We look forward to hearing from you!

Grantmakers for Education
membership@edfunders.org | 503.595.2100

READY TO GET STARTED?

Membership enrollment is open now. Scan below to contact our membership team and learn more or visit http://bit.ly/joinGFE.

SCAN ME