



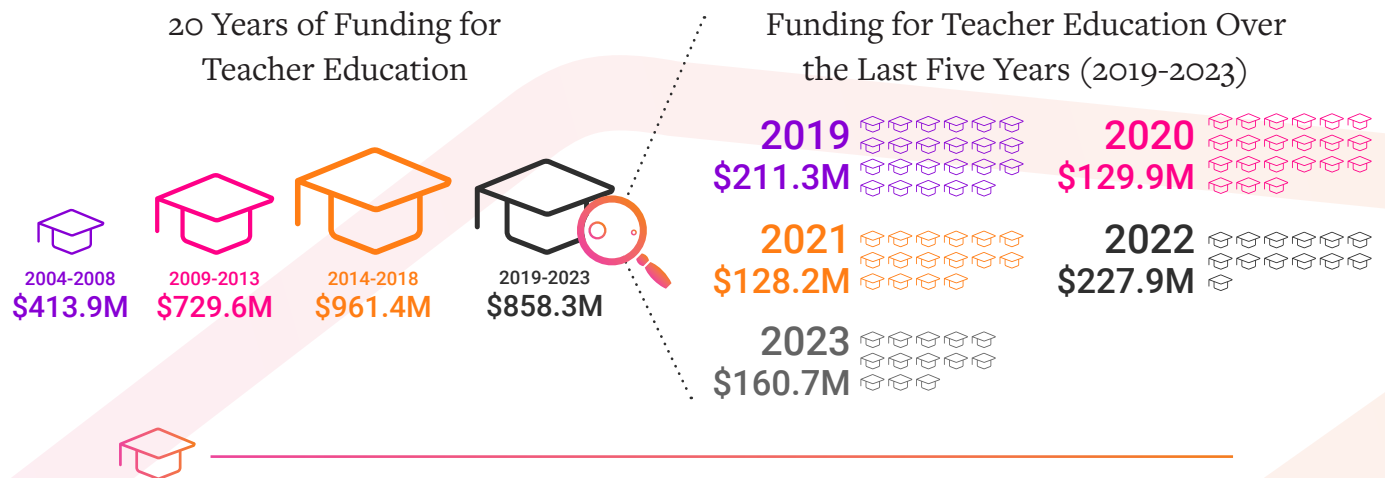
FOCUS ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE

RESEARCH BRIEF SERIES: TWENTY YEARS OF EDUCATION FUNDING IN THE U.S.

Grantmakers for Education engaged in several projects in the past two years to understand philanthropic priorities, approaches and investments in education, historical and current. By collecting and analyzing new data as well as analyzing data available through a licensed database, we conducted a comprehensive scan. This research brief is produced as part of this scan and is one of a series that shares information on giving patterns in education over the past twenty years among foundations and other grantmakers, from 2003 to 2023. Giving data was sourced from Candid's Foundation Directory. The analysis presented in this brief was conducted over a six-month period in 2024 and 2025.



Over the past 20 years, philanthropic funding for teacher education and the educator workforce, in terms of graduate and professional education, has steadily increased, reflecting the ongoing demand for teachers across the U.S. Notably, funding nearly doubled between the 2004–2008 and 2009–2013 periods, from \$413.9 million to \$729.6 million. Additionally, between 2021 and 2022, philanthropic funding for graduate teacher education almost doubled from \$128.3 million to \$227.9 million. A decrease was seen in 2023, however.



As the leading network for education philanthropy, Grantmakers for Education offers an unparalleled platform for learning, collaboration and influence – backed by front-line sector research, exclusive insights and a vibrant community of peers. We believe in the value of philanthropy as a catalytic partner in creating a just world. For more information, please contact us at information@edfunders.org.

Giving data was sourced from Candid's licensed database, *Foundation Directory Online*. According to Candid, data are "compiled from IRS information returns, grantmaker web sites, annual reports, printed application guidelines, the philanthropic press and various other sources. In all, Candid's editorial staff continually monitors more than 35 diverse information sources" and frequently updates the database. A full description of the Foundation Directory's sources may be found here: <https://help.candid.org/s/article/Where-does-Candid-get-its-data>. The classification system Candid employs for coding grants may be found here: <https://taxonomy.candid.org/>.

