



THE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING ASSOCIATION

FOUNDATION

Chidley Fund Academy Scholarships Overview

The Chidley Fund Academy Scholarships, honoring the memory of Lynn Chidley, provide the necessary funding for recipients' participation in Learning Forward's Academy for Staff Developers. The scholarship provides each recipient \$3,650 to support participation in the academy. The Learning Forward Academy is a two-and-a-half year learning experience, modeling the organization's vision for professional learning and teamwork in schools. Academy members are provided the opportunity to clarify, study, and solve authentic problems related to student learning in schools.

The purpose of the Chidley Fund Academy Scholarship is the development of leadership in the field of professional learning. Scholarship goals are to provide participants with time and expertise in constructing the knowledge and developing the skills and courage to solve significant problems related to student learning, thereby transforming professional learning within their own organizations.

Chidley Fund Academy Scholarships are for educators working with large populations of underserved students. The foundation can award two Chidley Fund Academy Scholarships: One is for a school-based teacher leader/coach who aspires to a role of leadership in professional learning, the second scholarship is for a district leader responsible for professional learning at the system level.

Requirements of Grant or Scholarship

Receipt of a Chidley Fund Academy Scholarship requires full commitment to active learning and participation throughout the Learning Forward Academy experience. Recipients additionally commit to complete all responsibilities as outlined in the Chidley Fund Academy Scholarship Application including required written reports of progress and reports at the Annual Conference during each year of the recipient's participation in the Academy. Additionally, scholarship recipients are required to participate in a final evaluation conversation in a face-to-face meeting at the conclusion of the scholarship. Chidley Fund Academy Scholarship recipients are required to regularly communicate with the Learning Forward Foundation contact assigned to the scholarship; submit any photos, updates, and information requested by the Learning Forward Foundation, and apply to present at one of the Learning Forward conferences.

Length of Grant and Foundation Support

The scholarship supports recipients for the duration of the two-and-a-half year Learning Forward Academy experience.

Selection Process

A committee of foundation representatives uses a rigorous evaluation process to select scholarship recipients. The committee uses a standardized scoring rubric and assigns a total score to each application.

Evaluation

Foundation representatives conduct an evaluation at the conclusion of the scholarship. This evaluation procedure requires scholarship recipients to provide data and other evidence of results as stated in the scholarship application.

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