



## ABOUT THE GOLDEN APPLE GRANT

The Golden Apple Grant is an initiative funded through the Hendersonville Chamber Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit arm of the Chamber. The grant provides educational resources to the Hendersonville educational community, providing an opportunity for teachers to apply for financial assistance that enables them to engage in activities that enhance learning and improve student performance. The grant seeks to supplement projects not otherwise funded through the state, school system, or other publicly funded sources of revenue.

Fundraising for the Chamber Foundation is obtained through personal and business donations, advertising sales for the Hendersonville City Guide Magazine, and the annual Freedom Festival. Since 2010, the Chamber Foundation has raised over \$400,000 in support of this initiative.

### **Grant Rating Priorities/Criteria**

Grant applications are reviewed by the Hendersonville Chamber Foundation Board and are ranked based on their relationship to programs/disciplines that are considered critical to the economic development of the area as well as the level of impact on school/system/State of Tennessee goals and outcomes associated with student achievement. The specific programs/disciplines listed below focus on preparing students for immediate career entry into fields where workforce gaps are identified as well as for college readiness to pursue post-secondary pathways that lead to future careers.

### **Programs/Disciplines**

#### **1. Career/Technical Education (CTE) and Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering, and Math (STEAM)**

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Business, Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

#### **2. Equipment and Technology**

- Discipline/Program-Specific Equipment
- Discipline/Program-Specific Software

#### **3. General Education**

- English/Language Arts
  - Literature, Speech, Writing
- Mathematics
  - Algebra, Geometry, Statistics, Calculus
- Social Studies/History
  - U.S. Government, U.S. History, World History, Geography
- Foreign Language
  - French, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Latin, German, American Sign Language

#### 4. Physical Education and Health

#### 5. Core Fundamentals Enhancement – Reading, Writing, Mathematics

- Language development, improvement of math competencies, reading comprehension advancement
- Activities that supplement classroom instruction to strengthen basic core skills

#### 6. Other Programs/Disciplines

- Areas of instruction not listed above that have an impact on student success

#### **School/System/State of Tennessee Standards, Goals, and Outcomes**

The grant application must include statements that indicate how the grant project aligns with stated standards, goals, or outcomes tied to the TN Academic Standards, school system goals or outcomes, or school-specific outcomes or standards. The inclusion of clear measurable results that demonstrate student progress/improvement is also a primary consideration in the overall grant application review.

#### **Funding Categories**

- Single Teacher Application up to \$500
- Multiple Teacher Application up to \$1,500
- School-wide Teacher Application up to \$3,000

#### **Grant Application Notice and Submission Deadline**

Schools are notified in the spring of each year regarding the opportunity for teachers to submit Golden Apple Grant applications. **All grant applications must be received by the September 5, 2025 deadline.**

- **In Person or Mail Submissions**

Deliver or mail to:

Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce  
“Golden Apple Grant”  
100 Country Club Drive, Suite 104  
Hendersonville, TN 37075

Applications must be completed in their entirety – all sections. The principal’s signature is required on the application. If you have questions about the grant application, contact Kathleen Hawkins, Hendersonville Chamber President and CEO at [Kathleen@hendersonvillechamber.com](mailto:Kathleen@hendersonvillechamber.com) or Hilary Marabeti, Chamber Foundation Board Member, at [divahbm1946@gmail.com](mailto:divahbm1946@gmail.com).

#### **Notification of Awards and Summary Reports**

Grant awards are announced October 14, 2025 at the Chamber’s Golden Apple Teacher Reception.

Upon completion of the grant project, awardees must complete a summary report for the Hendersonville Chamber, focusing on the achievement of the stated goals and outcomes of the project, and the impact of the project on students. Generally, the due date for these summary reports is three months following the completion of the project. On occasion, the Chamber may choose an alternative to the summary report which will be communicated to grant awardees.

