

The logo for FRIENDS of Public Schools features the word "FRIENDS" in large, colorful, rounded letters. Each letter is inside a circle of a different color: F (yellow), R (orange), I (red), E (blue), N (green), D (purple), S (pink). To the right of "FRIENDS" is a red heart and a blue circle. Below this is the text "of Public Schools" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

FRIENDS of Public Schools



Frequently Asked Question

1. Who is eligible to apply for this grant?

Any certified teacher currently working at the following schools is eligible to apply.

- Alderman Elementary
- College Park Elementary
- Forest Hills Elementary
- Rachel Freeman School of Engineering
- International School at Gregory
- Mary C. Williams Elementary
- Snipes Academy of Arts & Design
- Sunset Park Elementary
- Winter Park Elementary
- Wrightsboro Elementary

2. How much funding can I request?

Each teacher may request up to \$750 worth of materials and supplies over the course of the school year. Multiple smaller requests are allowed, provided the total amount does not exceed \$750 for the year.

3. What can the funds be used for?

Funds may be used to support classroom materials and enrichment activities that help you personalize your classroom and strengthen school culture. Examples include:

- Adaptive seating, office chairs, rugs, flexible seating like bolsters and bean bag chairs
- Classroom decor (posters, bulletin board items, shelves and organization items)
- Classroom incentives (treasure boxes, pizza parties, ice cream socials)
- Supplies for hands-on projects like gardening or art projects
- Recess equipment including jump ropes, soccer balls, footballs, board games
- Sensory items
- Yoga mats
- Student Chair pockets
- Instructional materials including whiteboards and timers

4. What items are not allowed?

Funds cannot be used to purchase:

- Books
- Technology (hardware, software, or apps)
- Curriculum-related items (textbooks, instructional programs)
- Subscriptions
- Conferences or trainings
- Field Trips
- Items barred by the district including microwaves, fridges, printers, or cleaning products

5. How do I apply? What if I have questions?

Scan the QR code on your letter to access the application form. Fill it out completely and submit your request. You can reach us by email at Friends@ciscapefear.org or by phone at **910-343-1901** if you have any questions.

6. When will I hear back after submitting my request?

All requests will be reviewed and processed within **10 business days or less**. You will be notified by email once your request is approved. After approval, items will be purchased on your behalf. You'll receive an email with an estimated arrival date once the order has been placed.

7. Can I receive the funds directly instead of items being purchased for me?

No. Funds are not distributed directly to teachers. Approved purchases will be made by Communities In Schools of Cape Fear and shipped to you or your school.

8. Do I need to submit receipts or reports after receiving my items?

No receipts are required since CIS Cape Fear will handle purchasing. However, we will ask for your response to a brief survey. A short reflection or photo to share the impact of your grant is optional, but encouraged!

9. Can I combine my grant request with other teachers for a joint project?

Yes, collaboration is encouraged! Each teacher must submit their own application, but you may describe how your requests connect to a shared project.