Getting Started to Apply for a Grant

Please use the questions below to help you decide if a grant opportunity is worthy of your time and effort. If so, then follow through the grant application process set forth by New Hanover County Schools. If not, your time may be better used seeking other grant, or funding opportunities, that best suit your specific needs.

* Do you have the application guidelines (sometimes called “application guidance” or instructions) for this program or grant so that you have a clear understanding of the purpose of this specific grant?
* What is the projected timeline to complete the grant application?
* Do you have enough time to complete a *quality* grant application?
* What kind of help do you need to complete the grant application?
* Does this grant address a specific unmet need in the NHCS and/or does it align with school/system goals?
* Does this grant fit with other grants or existing programs?
* Will this grant fund a new initiative or an existing project?
* Do you have supporting literature, needs assessment, or data for this grant?
* Does the grant fit with student demographics?
* What is the likelihood of community or parent support for this grant?
* Does the project require community or school system collaboration and does that currently exist for your project? Do you have enough time to involve both internal/external partners if appropriate?
* Does the grant require a match of any kind? (ex. cash or in-kind contribution) And, is the match funding affordable and available?
* What kind of resources will be required to implement this grant? Consider facilities, personnel impact, maintenance, supervision, etc.
* Does the grant allow indirect costs?
* Have you considered how the project will be sustained after the grant period is over? (ex. recurring costs)
* Review the NHCS grant flow chart to make sure you’re familiar with the application process specific to the monetary amount of this grant.