

2025 TIME Fellowship Frequently Asked Questions

What is the TIME Fellowship?

The TIME (Time to Inspire Margie's Educators) Fellowship is an initiative launched in 2022 to honor the legacy of Chuck and Margie Barancik. Through this initiative, Barancik Foundation annually awards 25 fellowships up to \$12,000 each to Sarasota County Schools educators. These fellowships are designed to support personal projects that reinvigorate educators' dedication to their students and commitment to the art of teaching.

Who is eligible to apply?

The 2025 TIME Fellowship program is open to currently employed, full-time instructional staff, assistant principals, and principals within Sarasota County Schools (SCS) pre-K to 12 traditional public schools who meet the following criteria:

- are assigned to a single school;
- maintain a current professional certificate with the state of Florida;
- have been employed in an instructional/administrative capacity within SCS traditional public schools for three or more academic years; and
- confirm their intention to continue teaching or working in SCS traditional public schools for at least three academic years after completing the fellowship.

Currently, charter, private, or virtual schools and classified staff are not eligible to apply.

Has anything changed from last year's TIME Fellowship program?

Based on helpful feedback from past applicants and school-district leadership, a few changes have been made to expand eligibility and simplify the application process:

- All full-time, single-school-based instructional staff (not just teachers of record) may apply this year.
- Letters of recommendation from colleagues are now optional. (A letter from your principal/district supervisor is still required.)
- While applicants must possess a current professional certificate to qualify, there is no need to upload certification documents with the application.
- Early submission of your application will earn a courtesy review for "completeness" by Barancik Foundation staff.

More details on requirements and eligibility can be found on the [TIME Fellowship web page](#).

Can two or more educators submit a collaborative project proposal?

Yes, group projects may be submitted. Each applicant should submit an individual application but be sure to use the same proposal title.



May couples in which both parties are educators apply?

Yes, couples in which both parties are qualified educators are eligible to apply for the TIME Fellowship. However, each individual must submit a separate application, even if they plan to collaborate on a joint project. If both individuals are selected as fellows, they will each receive their own fellowship award up to \$12,000.

How do I apply?

Prospective applicants are invited to register and then apply via the [TIME Fellowship online portal](#). Upon registering, users will provide contact information and complete an “eligibility quiz.” If all qualifications are met, the applicant can proceed.

What should I do before applying?

- Attend one of two virtual information sessions on May 29, 2024, at 7:30 a.m. or August 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. (Participation is not required but is strongly encouraged.)
- Consider your personal and professional commitments.
- Consider submitting your application early.
- Ensure that your principal or your district supervisor (if you are a principal) is willing to provide a signed letter of recommendation.

What are key dates to keep in mind?

- April 29, 2024: Invitation to Apply
- September 30, 2024: Application Submission Deadline
- November 2024: Notification and Payment
- December 31, 2025: Fellowship Completion Deadline
- January 30, 2026: Final Report Deadline

Can someone who is not employed by Sarasota County Schools join me on my fellowship?

Yes, so long as the fellowship does not exceed the budget.

If I applied in the past but my fellowship proposal was not chosen, can I reapply?

Yes, there is no limit to how frequently you may apply if you did not previously receive a fellowship. We welcome and encourage return applicants.

If I was previously awarded a fellowship, can I apply again in the future?

If you received a fellowship in the past, you must wait five years to reapply.

If I am reapplying for a fellowship, should I create a new user ID?

No, simply log into the application portal using your previous user ID, which should be your email. If you forgot your password, click “Forgot your Password?” This will prevent the creation of a duplicate profile.



[Can my letter of recommendation from a colleague be someone from outside of work?](#)

No. Your recommendation(s) must be from someone who works within Sarasota County Schools.

[Are the fellowship funds taxable?](#)

Yes, selected participants will be issued a 1099 tax form for all funds they receive.

[When are 1099s typically mailed out?](#)

Typically, 1099s are mailed in January, in the calendar year following the year you received your payment. For example, fellowship payments made in 2024 will receive a 1099 in January 2025.

[If prices change or my project goes over-budget, can I get reimbursed more money than I applied for?](#)

No. Once award decisions are made, all payments are final based on your requested budget.

[I incorrectly answered a question on the eligibility quiz. How should I proceed?](#)

Email TIME@barancikfoundation.org and we will reset your eligibility quiz so you are able to retake it.

[Do I need approval to change my fellowship timeline or budget?](#)

If you are making inconsequential or immaterial changes, you do not need approval. If changes will significantly alter your proposed project or its timeline for completion, let us know by emailing TIME@barancikfoundation.org.

[What document format do you require when I upload my timeline, budget, and letter\(s\) of recommendation?](#)

PDF is the preferred format.

