



## Frequently Asked Questions 2027 TIME Fellowship

### What is the TIME Fellowship?

The **TIME Fellowship** is an initiative of Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation to support Sarasota County Schools educators through professional renewal and personal refreshment. Barancik Foundation annually awards 25 fellowships up to \$12,000 each for educators to complete self-designed projects that will reignite their passion for teaching and inspire creative new approaches in their schools. TIME stands for “Time to Inspire Margie’s Educators,” and we created the initiative to honor the legacy of Margie Barancik, who was a teacher herself.

### Who is eligible to apply?

The 2027 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, and virtual schools and classified staff are not eligible to apply.

### Has anything changed from last year’s TIME Fellowship program?

No, the application requirements have not changed for the 2027 TIME Fellowship.

### How does the principal/district supervisor certification process work?

The applicant’s principal or district supervisor (if applicant is a principal) is asked to complete a simple certification related to the applicant. Within the application, applicants must enter the email address of their respective principal or district-level supervisor. The principal/supervisor will receive an emailed link to an online dashboard, where they will be asked to certify that the applicant: 1.) is in good standing with the Sarasota County School District; and 2.) has the ability to complete the fellowship. Both the principal/supervisor and the applicant will be notified by email that the certification has been requested, and both parties will be notified once the certification is complete. Please allow sufficient time for your principal/supervisor to review and complete this certification, as applications that have not been certified by the application deadline will be deemed incomplete. Certification emails will come from “Charles and Margery Barancik Foundation” via the email address [administrator@grantinterface.com](mailto:administrator@grantinterface.com).



#### [Can two or more educators submit a collaborative project proposal?](#)

Yes, group projects may be submitted. Each applicant should submit an individual application, budget amount, and itinerary, but be sure to use the same proposal title so we can better track your projects.

#### [May couples in which both parties are Sarasota County Schools 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, each will 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.

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

Email [TIME@barancikfoundation.org](mailto:TIME@barancikfoundation.org) and we will reset your eligibility quiz so you may retake it.

#### [What should I do before applying?](#)

- Attend one of our virtual information sessions on June 5 (at 9 a.m.) or July 31 (at 3 p.m.). Participation in an info session is not required but is strongly encouraged.
- Consider your personal and professional commitments to ensure that you can effectively complete your proposed project.
- Aim to submit your application early. Applications submitted by September 7 will be eligible for a courtesy review for completeness and the opportunity to update any missing information.
- Ensure that your principal or your district supervisor (if you are a principal) is willing to confirm that you are in good standing with the Sarasota County School District and that you have the ability to complete the fellowship.

#### [What are key dates to keep in mind?](#)

- May 1, 2026: Invitation to apply
- June 5 and July 31, 2026: Virtual info sessions
- September 7, 2026: Early application deadline for courtesy review
- September 28, 2026: Application final deadline
- November 2026: Notification and payment
- December 31, 2027: Fellowship completion deadline
- January 29, 2028: Final Report Deadline

#### [Can someone who is not employed by Sarasota County Schools join me on my fellowship?](#)

Yes, as 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 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 optional letter\(s\) of recommendation be from someone outside of work?](#)

No. Your recommendation(s) must be from a colleague 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 of the calendar year following the year you received your payment. For example, if your fellowship payment is made in 2026, you will receive a 1099 in January 2027.

[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.

[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](mailto:TIME@barancikfoundation.org).

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

PDF is the preferred format.

[What if I still need help with my application?](#)

Although Barancik Foundation staff cannot help you directly with your application content, we have engaged a team of volunteer “TIME Ambassadors” who can share advice and offer encouragement. These past TIME Fellowship recipients can help you with ideas or proofreading your application, for example. Please email [TIME@BarancikFoundation.org](mailto:TIME@BarancikFoundation.org) and we will do our best to connect you with someone to provide feedback on your proposal.

