



EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

2025 GUIDELINES
DEADLINES FOR APPLYING: APRIL 30 AND AUGUST 15, 2025



| About Us

The success of New England's families and communities depends on a public education system where all of our students have the resources, supports, and opportunities they need to be successful. The Nellie Mae Education Foundation is committed to using our resources and platform as a philanthropic institution to confront the barriers that prevent equal access to opportunities and ensure every child—regardless of their background—has access to an excellent education that prepares them to live a life of their choosing and thrive in community.

| Background

The Foundation is proud to have supported hundreds of organizations across the region through our Event Sponsorship program. Supporting organizations and communities with one-time event support that closely align with our mission, vision, and values is an essential part of our strategy. Over the last several years, the number of sponsorship requests the Foundation received has increased exponentially, requiring us to assess, clarify, and tighten our criteria, eligibility, and selection process. Please carefully review the Criteria and Eligibility sections below before submitting a request.

Applicants can apply for an Event Sponsorship up to \$5,000.

| Criteria for Selection

- **Mission Alignment:** The organization's mission focuses on education justice and racial equity in public education in service of youth, parents, and/or educators within one or multiple local communities in New England.
- **One-Time Event:** The organization is applying for an Event Sponsorship to support a one-time event such as, but not limited to a conference, learning event, product/research or white paper launch/release, community meeting, or an in-person fundraiser. **The Event Sponsorship program is NOT designed to fund operations, programming, capital campaigns, or online fundraising.**

| Eligibility

- Organizations that received an Event Sponsorship from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation in 2024 are not eligible to receive one for 2025 events.



- The event must target communities in one or more of the New England states (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont).
- The requesting organization’s current-year budget does not exceed \$2M.
- The event must be scheduled for 2025 or in the first four months of 2026.
- Current grantees and partners (organizations with a current contract with the Foundation) are not eligible.
- The Foundation funds public entities such as districts and public schools and 501(c)3 educational organizations that fall under the tax designation 509(a)(1) or 509(a)(2) and have an education focus, as evidenced in their articles of incorporation. Due to the Foundation’s tax status, private foundations (described in section 509 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code) and supporting organizations (described in section 509 (a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code) are NOT eligible grantees.

| Additional Information

Deadline

Applications are due by 5:00 PM, EST on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 or Friday, August 15, 2025

Proposal Submission Directions

Applications will be accepted using our [online application portal](#). Once you are logged in click on the Apply for a Grant Button. If you need assistance submitting a proposal or have questions, please get in touch with Stephanie Cheney at scheney@nmefoundation.org.

Start the application by filling in the Request Name field and clicking “Save”. Once this step is completed, you can log out and come back to complete and submit it at any time.