



VOLUNTEERS

We were founded by volunteers over 25 years ago and volunteers continue to be an integral part of our organization today. This CFE Volunteer Handbook provides detailed information about our programs & volunteer opportunities, and will serve as a guide to you as you embark upon your volunteer experience with us. Thank you for your interest in becoming a part of the CFE family!

ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS

The Chicago Foundation for Education has a long history of volunteer involvement and leadership. Volunteers help us plan, implement, and evaluate our programs, and it is their talent and support that enables CFE to invest roughly 90% of our contributed income directly in Chicago's public school teachers and students. Volunteer opportunities are flexible; we work with all of our volunteers to develop meaningful responsibilities that are well-suited to their interests, skills, and schedules.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Grant Readings:

Several times throughout the year, we need volunteers to help us read and evaluate our many grant applications. Spend a few hours reading, assessing, and discussing grant applications from CPS teachers with other volunteers and CFE staff members. Reviewing opportunities are flexible and directions on the review process are always provided at the office.

Small Grant Observations:

In the spring, volunteers are encouraged to observe grant-winning teachers in action in the classroom. Spend approximately 30 to 45 minutes observing a teacher implement their grant-winning project with their students; this activity is quite flexible and undoubtedly instrumental in the evaluation of our grant programs.

Study Group Liaison:

Each of our roughly 30 Study Groups is assigned a volunteer Liaison in order to provide a link between the Chicago Foundation for Education and participating Chicago Public School teachers. These volunteers provide general support and encouragement to their assigned Study Group, while simultaneously ensuring accountability.

Annual Teachers as Learners Workshop:

The annual Workshop is a professional development opportunity created by and for Chicago Public School teachers, and we always need several volunteers to help out the day of the event. As a participant in this event, you will have the opportunity to interact with teachers, hear their project presentations, and see the many positive things happening around CPS.

QUESTIONS ABOUT VOLUNTEERING WITH CFE?

Please feel free to contact CFE's Program Manager, Sarah Hoppe (SHoppe@CFEgrants.org or 312.670.2033), if you would like to discuss volunteer opportunities or a particular CFE program. The staff members at the CFE office are also available to answer questions at 312.670.2323 or CFE@CFEgrants.org. Many thanks and we hope to see you at a CFE volunteer event sometime soon!