

WINCHESTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Attention: WPS CERTIFICATED FACULTY WHO ARE
GRADUATES OF JOHN HANDLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Announcing: 2025-2026 LOY “COME BACK TO TEACH” EDUCATION GRANTS

Deadline: 11:59 P.M., MONDAY JUNE 30, 2025

The Application is attached. Apply by email. Carefully read this Grant Description prior to submitting your application.

The Winchester Education Foundation (WEF) is pleased to announce the continuation of the **Loy “Come Back to Teach” Education Grants**. These grants, funded by a testamentary trust of the late Mindy J. Loy, John Handley Class of 1974, have been established to assist graduates of John Handley High School who pursue careers in PreK-12 education.

The goals of the Loy “Come Back to Teach” Education Grants are to assist Handley High School graduates who have decided to “come back” to serve as educators, administrators, and other certificated professionals in the Winchester Public Schools, to promote recruitment and retention by WPS of outstanding education professionals, and, to the extent possible, to promote a racially and ethnically diverse professional faculty by encouraging employment of persons of underrepresented populations.

- **“Come Back” Education Grant Type One:** One or more grants in the amount of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to Handley graduates, from any graduation year, who are ***newly hired since July 1, 2024*** by Winchester Public Schools to work in a position that requires a professional certificate. Recipients may not receive this type of Education Grant more than one time.
- **“Come Back” Education Grant Type Two:** One or more grants in the amount of up to \$2,500 will be awarded to Handley graduates, from any graduation year, who are and have been employed by Winchester Public Schools in a position that requires a professional certificate ***for at least***

two years prior to the application date. Recipients may not receive this type of Education Grant more than one time.

- A recipient of a Loy “Come Back” Education Grant of any type must agree to remain with WPS for two additional school years following award of the grant, assuming WPS offers the recipient employment contracts in those years. Repayment will be expected if a recipient fails to remain with WPS for two additional years.
- Funds from a Loy “Come Back” Education Grant may be used in one of three ways:
 - (1) Direct payment by the WEF on outstanding student loan obligations for tuition incurred by the recipient in obtaining his or her education or professional degree or in continuing coursework toward additional degrees related to the recipient’s professional position.
 - (2) Reimbursement by the WEF to the recipient for tuition expenses paid out-of-pocket by the recipient within the preceding 24-month period for obtaining his or her education or professional degree or in continuing coursework toward acquisition of additional degrees related to the recipient’s professional position, provided that documentation of out-of-pocket payment by recipient is provided.
 - (3) Direct payment by the WEF for tuition expenses to an institution of higher learning in which recipient is enrolled in order to acquire an additional degree related to his or her professional position, provided that the recipient is employed by WPS at the time that the disbursement is made.

Requests for distribution of funds must be made on the Request for Distribution form to be provided by the WEF, with supporting documentation. All requests for distribution must be received by the WEF within two years of the award. Funds not used within two years are subject to forfeiture.

- Application Deadline: **Apply by 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2025 to:**

Larry Weiss, Executive Director of the Winchester Education Foundation, at wefsucces@gmail.com. If you have questions about the application process, you may address them to us at this email address.

WINCHESTER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

2025-2026 MINDY LOY “COME BACK TO TEACH” AWARD APPLICATION

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER(S):

EMAIL:

1. Are you currently employed by Winchester Public Schools?
Dates of WPS employment?
2. In what capacity/position are you employed by WPS?
3. At which school?
4. Are you a graduate of John Handley High School? Graduation year?
5. Describe your education beyond high school (colleges/universities attended; degrees obtained; years obtained).
6. Describe your career path up to this time.
7. Describe your future educational plans/goals, if any.

8. Describe your future career plans/goals.
9. In 300 to 500 words, please relate why, as a Handley graduate, you decided to come back to Winchester Public Schools as a teacher or other professional, and what contributions you feel you can or do make to this educational community.
10. If, for purposes of this Education Grant, you seek to be considered as a candidate who will contribute to the goal of expanding racial, ethnic, or cultural diversity within the WPS teaching faculty, please provide applicable information.

In signing this application, I am certifying as to the veracity of the information provided in this application. I have read and I understand the requirements and conditions of the Loy Education Grant. I understand that, if selected for this Grant, I am required to remain in the employment of WPS for two additional years or to repay the funds received. I understand that my application for this Grant does not assure my selection for it, and that all selection decisions shall be at the sole discretion of the Winchester Education Foundation Board of Directors.

If submitting by email, typing your signature below in all caps shall serve as an act of signing this application.

DATE

SIGNATURE

(Optional and does not affect selection decisions) Initial here _____ if you agree that, if selected to receive a grant, excerpts of your answer to Question 9 above may be used by WEF on its website or in materials about the Loy Education Grants.

Submission instructions:

Application Deadline: 11:59 p.m., JUNE 30, 2025

Email to Larry Weiss at wefsuccess@gmail.com.