

Donation Opportunities

Salute to Education Teacher Grants

The DeSoto County Foundation for Excellence in Education strives to maintain a standard of excellence in all schools in DeSoto County. This includes private, public, parochial, and home schools. The Foundation achieves this goal by awarding grants directly to classroom teachers to purchase innovative learning programs and supplies for the classroom that would not be available through the school budget funding. Grants are presented each September. Awards are up to \$500. Donors giving over \$250 will be listed on the Salute to Education Reception programming material and will receive acknowledgement.

The primary mission of the Foundation is Classroom Teacher Grants. However, we also manage the following funds for those who wish to be more specific in their charitable giving.

The Ben Flanagan Scholarship Fund

This Memorial Scholarship is for High School Seniors domiciled in DeSoto County, though they may attend any high school or home school program. It is Sponsored by the DeSoto Council Board of Directors and managed by the DeSoto County Foundation for Excellence in Education. This \$500 Scholarship is presented each May. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

The Taylor Justice McRae Character Scholarship

This "Dare to be Different" Character Scholarship is designed to help one Horn Lake High School Senior each year with the financial burdens of college while modeling the Godly attributes of honesty, trustworthiness, faithfulness, and strong moral character. The \$1000 Scholarship is presented each May by the McRae Family. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

The Morgan-Lancaster Leadership Scholarship

The Morgan Lancaster Leadership Scholarship is for any high school senior domiciled in DeSoto County that has shown Leadership and Perseverance. This \$250 Scholarship is presented in May of each year. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

DeSoto County Schools Gifted Fund

This fund is maintained for the purposes of offering needed materials for the gifted students of the DeSoto County Schools. Projects include Chess, Knowledge Bowl, Debate Team and Spotlight. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

Opportunities Continued

DeSoto County Schools Flag Replacement Fund

This fund is maintained for the purposes of replacing aged and damaged flags at DeSoto County Schools. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

MS Wildlife Rehabilitation/ Classroom Education Fund

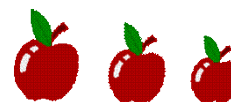
This fund is used for fifth grade classrooms at each school to educate our young people about wildlife. The program is designed to meet specific benchmarks for the approved science curriculum at the DeSoto County Schools. Live animals and hands-on props are brought to each school for the program. The program costs \$500 per participating school. Funds are used so that all fifth grade students, regardless of income, may participate. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

DeSoto County Schools Visually Impaired Fund

This fund is maintained for the purposes of offering needed materials for the visually impaired students of the DeSoto County Schools. Projects include Braille Books and training workshops for teachers. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

Education Majors at NWCC & Ole Miss

This fund is maintained for the purposes of offering small scholarships for education majors at DeSoto Center. The Northwest MS Community College Foundation will award these funds on behalf of the DeSoto Co Foundation for Excellence in Education. Donors will receive acknowledgement.

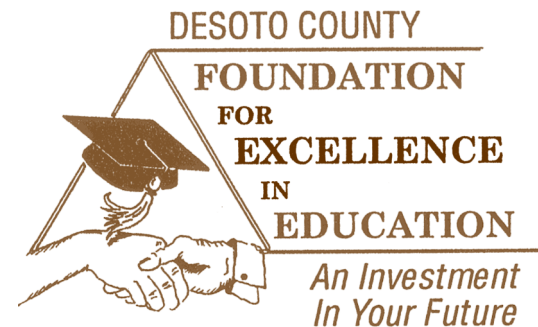


Your Invitation to Act

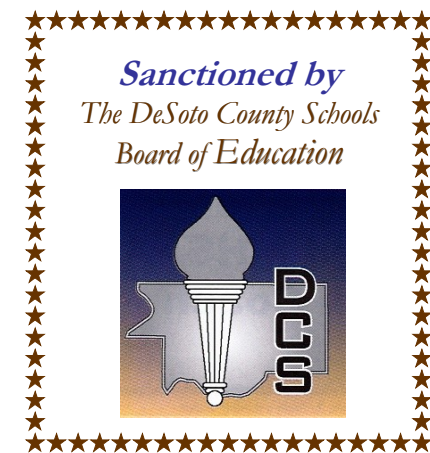
Send your tax deductible contribution to:



DeSoto County Foundation for Excellence
In Education, Inc.
316 West Commerce Street
Hernando, MS 38632



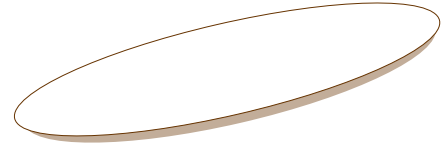
316 West Commerce Street
Hernando, Mississippi



Sponsored by



Who We Are:



Foundation Objective

The Foundation is a Mississippi *non-profit corporation* formed to receive and maintain private funds to be used exclusively for education purposes. The Foundation will also provide assistance in initiating programs that demonstrate effective ways to meet student needs and increase motivation to learn. The Foundation grew out of an effort to foster a high level of cooperation and support for all schools, encompassing business/industry, local citizens, civic and social organizations, and the schools.

Foundation Organization

The Foundation was organized by the DeSoto Council as a *non-profit, tax exempt corporation* under Mississippi law, qualifying for a 501(c)(3) ruling by the IRS. Pursuant to Miss. Code 79-11-503, the Foundation is registered as a *charity* with the Secretary of State of Mississippi. This means that **contributions to the Foundation will be tax deductible to the donor. This is the only organization in DeSoto County sanctioned by the Board of Education for tax exempt solicitation purposes.**

Foundation Structure

Management of the Foundation is by a Board of Directors, made up of the Executive Committee of the DeSoto Council, the Superintendent of Education, and the Chairman of the Foundation Education Advisory Committee. Each year, a volunteer panel of judges is selected to award teacher grants based on the merits of their applications and to judge student scholarship application essays. The panel is representative of education, business, government, banking, industry and civic organizations.

How Funds Are Used

Donations can be made to the Foundation general fund or may be designated for specific purposes by the donor. The general funds will be used for “mini-grants” to teachers, business/industry partnerships, endowments for college scholarships, teacher incentive programs, purchase of technological equipment, sponsorship of fine arts programs, faculty and student recognition, guest speakers, and other education programs.

Funds will **not** be used for administrative costs or additional personnel to operate the Foundation Program. **Those contributions for specific purposes as designated by the donor will be honored and used in the said manner.** All gifts and contributions will be administered as determined by the Board of Directors.

Why You Should Give

Quality of education represents the lifeblood of any community. In order for DeSoto County to continue to grow and prosper, it is imperative that the schools offer the best educational experiences possible. As such, your investment in the schools is an investment in creativity and excellence in education, and an investment in the future of this county.



Foundation Plan

Objectives of the DeSoto County Foundation for Excellence in Education, Inc., will be pursued by soliciting funding from all available sources such as the following:

- ⇒ Grant proposals from major foundations
- ⇒ Gifts of property, securities, bequests, memorial contributions, and other donations
- ⇒ Private gifts of cash, real estate, or other assets
- ⇒ Organizational support from PTO and other booster groups
- ⇒ Contributions of cash or property from business or industry
- ⇒ Funds from local government agencies

**DeSoto County
Foundation for Excellence
In Education, Inc.**



Amount of Donation

\$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

**DeSoto County Foundation for
Excellence in Education, Inc.**

316 West Commerce Street

Phone: 662-429-4414

Fax: 662-429-0952

E-mail: dmorgan@desotocounty.com

Name: _____
Address: _____ _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
In Memory / In Honor : _____ _____
Address: _____