



The Book Love Foundation believes that a love of reading is essential for all students, all grade levels. We assist teachers in the United States and Canada with building inclusive classroom libraries to inspire and nurture a lasting love of reading. In 2022 we expanded our grants to include those specific to building book clubs, and now in 2024, we have added a third grant for preservice teachers.

The Book Love Foundation seeks teachers who demonstrate a passion for promoting a hunger for books. These teachers recognize the diversity of every class of readers, and they challenge each student to build an independent reading life of increasing depth and joy. Teachers who apply for a Book Love Foundation grant *must demonstrate that they are committed to the support of readers* through current classroom practices such as maintaining access to a range of books, conferring regularly and purposefully to understand and support students' changing needs, and sharing their own contagious passion for reading inside and outside of their classrooms.

The Book Love Foundation seeks teachers who commit to a deeper understanding of the importance of an individual reading life that is as diverse as the students we teach.

By submitting your application, you agree to meet the Book Love Foundation requirements listed below and declare that all information in your application is complete and accurate.

Book Love Foundation Grants

Preservice Teacher Grant Application 2024

Requirements for Book Love Foundation grants:

- Applicant **must be enrolled in a teacher preparation program** in the United States or Canada.
- Applicant must demonstrate an understanding of why independent reading and/or book clubs are important as regular classroom practices.
- The books received from this grant are not for a school-wide library or to be permanently divided among teachers. These are for you to begin building your own classroom library of engaging books. Creative sharing among friends, however, is always encouraged.

- Applicant must be willing to be included in Book **Love** Foundation promotional materials/website and participate in research into the effectiveness of classroom libraries and book clubs on student outcomes in reading. We expect grant winners to collect records and help us advance this important work. **This is a partnership. If we choose you, we expect you to help us help others.**
- This grant is given to **you** to support your work as a classroom teacher. Wherever you choose to teach, the books go with you.

If you meet the above requirements, please answer the following questions in as concise, but thorough a manner as possible. Make your application easy for our readers, many of whom are not teachers. We love photographs and stories, but please remember that our grant readers have hundreds of pages to carefully review each year, so your entire application should not exceed 4000 words, including recommendations. Every year we are inspired by you. **Thank you** for your commitment to becoming a teacher and for giving us a window into your world.

Part I: Who are you?

What is your name?

What are your HOME and SCHOOL email addresses?

Why do you want to be a teacher?

Why is regular, sustained reading important for all students you teach?

PART II: The culture of reading

1. How can a teacher build a culture of reading in their classroom?
2. What do you see as barriers to **building a love of reading**?
3. What are you doing to increase empathy and understanding of LGBTQIA+, social justice, and mental health issues?

Part III: Your Reading Beliefs and Professional Practices

1. Please describe significant factors in your professional learning in the last year (e.g., textbooks you've read; professional association memberships; conferences you've attended; articles you've been influenced by; areas of personal research; blogging; Twitter chats; your personal learning network, etc.)

2. Discuss how a classroom library can impact reading instruction. How can teachers encourage and monitor sustained engagement with reading?

Part IV: How you will use this \$500 grant

1. How will you spend \$500? Please list some of the titles and/or author collections you plan to order and explain why these books are the right fit for your students.

Part V: Video

In a video of 3 minutes or less, please tell us a story that summarizes why it would be wise for us **to invest in YOU**. Your digital submission must be posted to Loom or YouTube and hyperlinked in your grant application document. Please make sure you have checked permissions to make this video is accessible to readers of your application.

Part VI: Submit Your Application

Process for submission of your application:

1. Complete the following grant application for one of the three grant types by April 1, 2024 and submit it through the [2024 Book Love Foundation Grant google form](#).

All parts of the application **must be submitted as a single, multi-page PDF document titled with the applicant's first and last names** (ex. **Penny Kittle BLF Preservice Teacher 2024 application**)

- We receive hundreds of applications each year, so please label your PDF file **exactly as stated above**. Our readers are volunteers, and we cannot ask them to combine and re-label your application file because you sent it in separate parts. **We hate to do it, but we must discard applications that are not labeled and sent correctly.**
 - You will receive an email with a copy of the google form you submitted. Please review for accuracy and edit if changes are required, but please do not send your application more than once.
 - Go back and read these directions before you submit, **please**.
2. All applicants will be notified by email of grant decisions in June and no later than June 30, 2024. *Please be sure your school and summer email addresses are correct when you submit your application, so that we can contact you. Check your spam folder if you haven't heard anything by June 30, 2024.*
 3. Books will be delivered to grant winners as our amazing vendors have them available. We hope to complete delivery during the fall of 2024. The sooner you order, the sooner you'll receive your books.

4. We cannot provide feedback on applications, sorry. If you are not awarded a grant this year, we encourage you to apply again in 2025.
5. If you have questions, please send them to application@booklovefoundation.org. Emails are not checked regularly, so please wait patiently for a response.