



RICHLAND COUNTY FOUNDATION

DATE: August 9, 2011

TO: Richland County School Superintendents,
Principals, Curriculum Directors and K-12 teachers

FROM: Becky Smith, Program Officer *Becky*

SUBJECT: REQUIREMENT CHANGE FOR 2012 TEACHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN REQUIREMENT FOR TAP APPLICATION

CHANGE: Any teacher who is planning to apply for a TAP grant must attend one of the six workshops which will be offered over six weeks beginning in mid-January and running through the month of February. Workshops will be held in Founders Meeting Room at Richland County Foundation from 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. No exceptions will be made.

This is a three-year pilot program. Workshops will be held each year. Once the teacher has attended a workshop, his/her name will be recorded, and the teacher may apply for grants for the duration of the three-year period, without attending another workshop. Workshop dates are as follows: January 18, January 26, January 30, February 7, February 15, and February 23.

The Richland County Foundation is in the process of accessing all of its grantmaking to determine its effectiveness and whether or not to continue all of the current programs.

The **Teacher Assistance Program (TAP)** provides mini grants (up to \$1,000) for area classroom teachers to develop creative and interesting new programs, projects or events for individual K-12 classrooms of Richland County. Grants are awarded to individual teachers or small teams of classroom teachers, intended to foster educational innovation by funding creative ideas **not supported by regular school budgets**. ***NOT AVAILABLE TO PRE-Kindergarten or PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS nor for projects that are designed to benefit the entire school population.***

Eligible Organizations: Richland County K-12 schools, including both public and private. Individual teachers and teams of teachers who attend one of the workshops that are offered (as mentioned above) are eligible to apply. Grant Program **does not** include PRE-K or PRESCHOOL.

Grant Guidelines: Although this program is open for all educational projects, the Richland County Foundation will select projects which: 1) Promote creative ideas; 2) Demonstrate educational innovation; 3) Make a difference for student learning; and 4) Are not supported through normal school operating budgets. Additionally, this program typically does not fund computer hardware. The maximum grant amount for an individual proposal is \$1,000.

Contact Information: If you have any questions or would like additional information about TAP, please contact Becky Smith or Krisi Johnston at 419-525-3020.