Francis Nathaniel Kennedy
1892–1960
Katheryn Padgett Kennedy
1887–1973

Mrs. Katheryn Padgett Kennedy made provision in her Last Will and Testament for the establishment of the Francis Nathaniel Kennedy and Katheryn Padgett Kennedy Foundation. The Kennedy Foundation was funded following her death in June, 1973.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy were members of the First Baptist Church of Laurens and were active in many of its ministries on the local, state, and Southern Baptist levels. They were deeply interested in, and generously supported, the work of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

Although they did not have children of their own, the Kennedys were interested in the education of “needy and worthy young people,” especially those preparing for full time careers in Christian ministry and service. They also supported institutions and agencies whose main purpose was “caring for the aged, infirm, needy and orphaned”.

The Kennedy Foundation is administered by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Founder for life, with provision for succession.

Guidelines for Grant Applicants
1. Missions
A minimum of 15 percent of The Kennedy Foundation’s annual income is to be granted to the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. This condition is satisfied through an annual grant to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. An annual donation is also made to the Annie Armstrong Offering, which is managed by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

2. Students
A. Grants shall be made to assist students who are committed to and are preparing for full time careers in Christian ministry and service. Special consideration will be given to those applicants endeavoring to enter the field of missions.
B. Applicants shall be considered first on the basis of need; taking into consideration any other financial resources, including assistance from family.
C. Applicants shall then be considered based on the following scholastic and geographic criteria:
   a. Seminary students who are residents of Laurens County
   b. Seminary students who are residents of the State of South Carolina
   c. Undergraduate students who are residents of Laurens County
   d. Undergraduate students who are residents of the State of South Carolina
D. Grant recipients shall have the opportunity to renew their application for support each year of the student’s academic preparation, provided acceptable grades are maintained.

3. Institutions and Agencies
Grants may be made to a limited number of denominational institutions and agencies serving dependent and neglected children and the aged.

The Kennedy Foundation does not make loans and grants are not awarded for capital expenditures.

To be eligible for grant opportunities, institutions and agencies must be accredited and must qualify under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Application Process
Students applying for the first time should send a written request for application and budget forms to:

Dr. Bev T. Kennedy, Jr
219 Sherwood Dr.
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

1. These completed forms, along with a current transcript from the school attended, should be returned by April 1 in order to be considered for the upcoming year.

2. Students wishing to renew existing grants will receive application and budget forms in mid-February. These must be completed and returned by April 1, along with a current transcript.

3. Institutions and agencies applying for financial assistance should submit a formal, written proposal, to include a detailed description of the purpose for which the funding is desired and the plan for achieving that purpose.

4. All applications and requests shall be presented to the Board of Trustees at its annual meeting each May, at which time the grants will be approved for the upcoming year.