

# Education & Workforce Conference

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**Ted Lord**  
**Senior Vice President and Staff Attorney**  
**Golden LEAF Foundation**

Ted Lord joined the Golden LEAF Foundation in 2005 as a program officer and now serves as senior vice president and staff attorney. Golden LEAF is a nonprofit organization established in 1999 to receive a portion of North Carolina's funding from the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement with cigarette manufacturers. Golden LEAF focuses on strategies to promote economic development in rural, tobacco dependent, and economically distressed areas of North Carolina. Ted works with the Community Based Grants Initiative, the Open Grants Program, the Economic Catalyst Program, and a variety of special projects and initiatives. Over two decades, Golden LEAF has funded 1,937 projects totaling more than \$1.1 billion. These projects have helped create 65,000 jobs, over half a billion dollars in new payroll, and have trained more than 85,000 workers.



Ted's duties include discussing projects with potential applicants, conducting due diligence regarding proposals, and monitoring projects after grants are awarded. He also helps develop policies and programs to implement the priorities of the Golden LEAF Board and identifies and addresses legal issues related to programs and projects. Before joining Golden LEAF, Ted was a fellow and special projects coordinator for the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in Winston-Salem, served as law clerk to the Honorable James A. Beaty, Jr., United States District Judge, and practiced law with a firm in Greensboro.

Ted was born and raised in North Carolina. He attended Swarthmore College and Wake Forest University School of Law.