

Health Science Education Small Grants Program

Request for Proposals

Strict Proposal Deadline September 7, 2010 at 5pm

Sponsored by:

The University of Texas Academy of Health Science Education

The University of Texas System

Project Purpose

The purpose of the Health Science Education Small Grants Program is to stimulate research and innovation in health science education. The University of Texas (UT) Academy of Health Science Education is an organization of faculty from the six health institutions in UT System whose mission is to promote excellence in health science education. The Small Grants Program will be administered by the Academy members, with representatives from each of the six UT health institutions. This group (Awards Committee) will form the peer review responsible for scoring the submissions and choosing the awardees.

This program will make small awards (up to \$5,000 per project) to faculty members at a UT health institution who submit a written proposal and budget for a project that strives to improve education by innovative approaches. These projects may involve curriculum development, evaluation methods, faculty development, or use of technology. Projects demonstrating a direct, measurable, positive impact on health science education will be most competitive for the award. Applications will be accepted from all health science disciplines, including medical, nursing, dental, allied health, public health, health information, and basic biomedical sciences.

A successful application will be based upon merit with the intention to meet the needs of a given program. Collaboration between or among groups or schools is strongly encouraged where possible. Individuals who received funding in the initial year of the program can reapply for a second year of funding, but this application requires submission of a progress report as well as a proposal for additional funding.

The projects with the greatest potential of producing measured improvement in the quality of education within the UT System will be most competitive for award funds. This incentive will help to ensure that our educational institutions will be at the forefront of meeting the needs of future students and exceeding the expectations of health science leaders of the future.

PROPOSAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposal must include the following:

- **Page 1:** Title page including principal investigator and collaborators and name of school/department
 - **Page 2:** Abstract of no more than 250 words
 - **Page 3:** Budget and budget justification
 - **Pages 4-6:** Body of the proposal should include:
 - Goals and objectives, including relationship to institution, school, or departmental goals and objectives
 - Statement of need/rationale for project
 - Project description
 - Evaluation of outcomes
 - Personnel involved, including primary contact
 - Timeline, tasks, and individuals responsible for tasks
 - **Pages 7-8:** Progress report (for second year of funding)
- Attachments (not included in 6 page limit) must include:**
- Letters of support from department chair and dean
 - Short biographical sketch of the principal investigator and major collaborators using NIH format

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING SUBMISSIONS

The project must show educational merit and relevance to the goals and mission of the UT System and the UT health institution, as well as to the department or school from which the proposal is submitted.

Educational Merit (0 – 70 points)

Documentation of the problem/need

- Clear statement of the problem/need being addressed
- Brief discussion of major literature related to this problem
- Clear objectives to meeting the need

Appropriate design/plan of work to meet/fulfill objectives

- Design clearly described as an improvement/advancement
- Appropriate to objectives
- Feasible within the project period
- Includes scientifically sound sources of data and methods of analysis

Project Management Capability

- Qualified personnel that may include expertise in educational design, instructional technology, library science, and evaluation
- Management capability

Relevance (0 – 30 points)

- The potential to improve teaching and learning environment
- How the product/results of the project will be disseminated at the institution and elsewhere
- The potential to apply to other educational settings and venues

PEER REVIEW PROCESS: September 13-December 23, 2010

The review process will be conducted by members of the UT Academy of Health Science Education from each of the six UT health institutions. This group is committed to reviewing the proposals and to encouraging the successful implementation of awarded proposals. The ultimate goal is to disseminate mature projects worthy of external funding and publication.

NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS: on (or around) December 23, 2010

AWARD AMOUNTS: Proposals for funding may range from \$1000 to \$5,000, and will be awarded to the most competitive proposals as judged by the peer review process.

WRITTEN REPORT AND PRESENTATION

All awardees will submit a Formal Written Report (3-5 pages) at the conclusion of their projects (within the 12th month of the project) detailing project processes, outcomes, potential for further funding, and dissemination possibilities or results. All awardees will be expected to present an abstract of their work at the annual Innovations in Health Science Education Conference.

Publications

Scholarship as the result of this project will be useful in promoting the professional development of awardees. Scholarship is a public act and, there are many existing and emerging journals focused on medical education to which faculty can submit their work for publication. These include the Educational Researcher (ER), American Educational Research Journal (AERJ), Educational Review, the Journal of Research on Technology Education (JRTE), or Learning & Leading with Technology, Academic Medicine, Journal of Dental Education, and Medical Teacher. Electronic publication opportunities include MedEdPORTAL of the AAMC.

Presentations

Part of our mission related to the promotion of the scholarship of teaching includes presentations at regional and national meetings, which showcase the work of our innovative faculty. Appropriate meetings include the UT Innovations in Health Science Education Conference, Association of American Medical Colleges, International Society for Technology in Education, Association for the Advancement in Computing in Education, ED-MEDIA-World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications, and E-Learn--World Conference on e-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education.

GUIDELINES AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

Proposal Deadline: September 7, 2010

Project Timeline: Feb 3, 2011-Feb 3, 2012

Only applications submitted electronically will be accepted for consideration for the small grants program. ALL application materials including letters of reference must be submitted in the ADOBE pdf format. Submit the application packet **electronically** by September 7, 2010 to:

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