

College of Education Academic Excellence Fund*

The Academic Excellence Fund in the College of Education supports faculty and graduate students in advancing their research/scholarly objectives and excellence in teaching. The College of Education Academic Excellence Fund is based on a three-year spending plan to provide simple and timely access to \$135,822 in carryover funds. The goal of the plan is to strengthen the academic reputation and profile of the College by elevating the research/scholarship and teaching excellence of our faculty and graduate students.

Activities supported by the Academic Excellence Fund include research, dissemination of scholarly or creative work, and graduate student-led initiatives, activities, or events that advance graduate research and professional development. Students can apply for, and access funds from the Academic Excellence Fund in collaboration with faculty mentors before the expenses are incurred. The College of Education Academic Excellence Fund is comprised of five categories:

Category 1: Dean's Travel and Conference Support

Transportation costs and registration fees necessary to present scholarly or creative work at recognized events (e.g., conferences, colloquia, poster presentations, and exhibitions)

Category 2: Publication and Other Scholarly Activities – Priority given to those working with a COE center or institute.

Expenses related to activities to disseminate scholarly or creative work to academic and non-academic audiences, including materials related to dissemination activities, open-access publication fees to publish in reputable and recognized academic (i.e., journals), and creative venues; editing services for publications.

Category 3: Research Expenses

Expenses for fieldwork include travel, accommodations, equipment, materials, supplies, data analyses, grant writing, and other essential services exclusively used for the proposed research project.

Category 4: Professional Development Initiatives

Professional development workshops organized by graduate students and faculty and other initiatives that enhance graduate research. This may include learning opportunities for TCU faculty, staff, and students, as well as professional development for educators in the field.

Category 5: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Research & Pedagogical efforts

Projects aimed to increase student and faculty inclusion, success, and retention. Proposals eligible for this funding include: empirical studies and demonstration projects of direct relevance to diversity, equity, or inclusion, where diversity refers to the traits and characteristics that make people unique; equity refers to ensuring fair treatment and equality of opportunity for all individuals; and inclusion refers to the behaviors and social norms that ensure people feel welcome and where processes and outcomes are improved. Proposals may target any aspect of DEI, but preference will be given to substantive projects that evaluate the impact of DEI efforts in the PK-16 community, college community, or organizational settings.

Ineligible Expenses

Expenses that are not directly related to activities supported by the Academic Excellence Fund include travel unrelated to the project for which the funds are awarded; academic association membership fees; training fees (i.e., courses and workshops); expenses that have or will be reimbursed by another source of funds; expenses that are typically funded through regular operating procedures within the university (e.g., work computers); expenses generally borne by employees or graduate students themselves (e.g., internet, phone, and data usage charges); and local transportation.

| Item | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Total |
|--|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Dean's Travel & Conference Support (presenters of research papers – both faculty and students) | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | \$30,000 |
| Publication and Other Scholarly Activities (priority given to partnerships with CPECE, Andrews and ANSERS) | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$45,000 |
| Research Expenses | \$8,000 | \$8,000 | \$8,000 | \$24,000 |
| Professional Development Initiatives | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$15,000 |
| DEI Research & Pedagogical Efforts | \$7,275 | \$7,275 | \$7,275 | \$21,825 |
| Total | \$45,275 | \$45,275 | \$45,275 | \$135,825 |

Academic Excellence Fund: \$135,825

College of Education (COE)
Academic Excellence Fund Application

Purpose:

The Academic Excellence Fund in the College of Education supports faculty and students in advancing their research and scholarly objectives and excellence in teaching through simple and timely access to funds. Activities supported by the Academic Excellence Fund include research, dissemination of scholarly or creative work, and student-led initiatives, activities, or events that advance graduate research and professional development. Funds must be spent before May 31, 2024.

Application:

Proposals are to be submitted by the first Monday of each month through April 2024 to the Research Council electronically (l.kimball@tcu.edu). A full proposal is required from each applicant and shall include no more than two pages (single-spaced) and address the following:

Selection criteria:

- (Title of Project)
- One paragraph abstract of the project and its significance
- Description of the project, including how the project will enhance the individual's research/creative practice and/or how the project will contribute to evaluating the research or teaching enterprise of the college
- Scope of work and timeline (what activities will be completed, and when, during the grant-funded period)
- Project goals
- Justification of funds: explain how the funds will advance the project or what project-related expenses will be funded through the grant.
- Anticipated Results.

Evaluation:

The proposal will be evaluated by the COE Research Council.

Reporting:

A final project report is due to the Research Council no later than one year following the start of the project. (The report should describe how the project time was spent and the accomplishments that resulted. It is recommended that faculty share their report with the appropriate department/school chair/director).