

02.28.22.04

From Provost Tarhule

Dist. to Executive Committee 03/28/22

Advisory Item 04/06/22

Finalized version distributed 05/05/22

Provost Innovation and Enhancement Grant Application and Process

Program Summary

The Provost's Office is pleased to announce the Provost Innovation and Enhancement pilot program (PIE), to support colleges, schools, departments, and academic programs in three key areas, namely:

1. Student Success
2. Curriculum and Pedagogy enhancements
3. Program/Department visibility and reputation

If you are unsure whether (or how) your idea fits with this initiative, please contact Dan Elkins (delkins@ilstu.edu) in the Office of the Provost for an initial conversation. Proposals must include data and evidence to support the need for the program/initiative and should be tied to goals as articulated in annual reports, program review documents, or college/school/department strategic plan. Chairs and Directors may consult with staff in the Provost Office in developing their grant proposals; some suggestions are listed below.

Student Success

Through a consultative process the university has produced a [draft holistic definition of student success](#). The Provost Innovation and Enhancement pilot program invites proposals and initiatives that seek to support both the traditional metrics of undergraduate and graduate student success as well as new and emerging ideas. You may consult with the Assistant Vice President for Student Success for proposals focusing on student success. Examples include:

- Improving retention and graduation within the major/school department
- Increasing student engagement (e.g., development and support RSOs, collaboration with Career Services for early career development in the discipline)
- Analysis and identification of departmental policies and procedures that can be reviewed to provide better opportunities for student success
- Analyze and reduce costs to students that are associated with completing the program (could include reviewing textbook requirements, creating retention scholarships out of existing foundation funds, reducing materials costs)

Curriculum and Pedagogy Enhancements

The Provost Innovation and Enhancement pilot program will support programs that seek to retool or redesign courses or curriculum to meet new and emerging instructor or student needs. You may consult with the Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Education and/or the Assistant Vice President for Faculty Development, Diversity, and Learning for proposals focusing on curriculum and pedagogy. Examples include:

- Exploring new models of course delivery aligned with course objectives and outcomes
- Course redesign that converts the modality of the course delivery e.g., in person to hybrid or vice versa
- Mapping of curriculum (e.g., with [Curricular Analytics](#) or other similar programs) to identify curricular opportunities to enhance student success
- Analysis and identification of individual courses in the curriculum to identify opportunities for improved student success and development of a plan (e.g., course redesign plans, supplemental instruction, additional support for students) with faculty involvement to take advantage of those opportunities
- Initiatives to reduce time to degree completion

Program/Department Visibility and Reputation

Schools/Departments interested in increasing their visibility or reputation may apply for funding under the Provost Innovation and Enhancement pilot program. You may consult with the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management for proposals focusing on recruitment. Examples include:

- Student recruitment including increasing equity, diversity, access, and belonging
- Developing accelerated degree programs (4+1)
- Developing partnerships and 2+2 (4+1 or 3+2) type programs with international partners
- International student recruitment
- Graduate student recruitment

Award Levels and Duration

In this pilot year, the total amount of funding available is approximately \$400,000.

- The maximum amount of money available per grant is \$20,000. Please contact Provost Office staff (see “general Information” section below) if your proposal requires a higher amount
- The duration allowed for each grant is 12 months. Please contact the appropriate Provost Office staff (see below) if your proposal requires a longer timeline
- PIE funds are not eligible for Strategic Budget Carryover (SBC)

Examples of Eligible Expenses

The following expenses are allowed:

- Expenses directly incurred by students for projects
- Contractual agreements for external consultants, software, or services
- Funding graduate or undergraduate student worker positions to support the effort
- Student recruitment activities

Examples of Ineligible Expenses

The following expenses are not allowed on this grant:

- Faculty stipends unless significant justification warrants it
- Course overloads, instructional costs, or buyout for course releases
- Student scholarships or tuition reimbursements
- Post grant expenses that the program is unable to cover

Application process

Applications can be submitted at any time through August 31, 2022. Once the review committee has been finalized, applications will be reviewed as they are submitted, and applicants will be notified as soon as possible. NOTE: applications submitted later will not be at a disadvantage in terms of funding.

The grant application is available by visiting this link

(https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/provost_innovation_and_enhancement_grant) and will be available on the Office of the Provost website.

Review Process

Proposals will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee of faculty and/or staff representatives from each college in consultation with Provost Office staff.

For General Information

Please contact Dan Elkins (delkins@ilstu.edu) or 438-7018.