FUNDING FOR RESULTS

Funding for Results (FFR) provides small grants to faculty and staff for projects aimed at improving teaching and learning. Proposals are requested in a standard grant proposal format and are reviewed by a Funding for Results team. Awards are managed as grant accounts. Professional development funds ($500 per proposal) will be awarded to the authors of funded projects. To assist you in preparing your proposals, this letter contains a general outline of the Funding for Results program and instructions for obtaining specific information on each grant category.

It is important to keep two things in mind as you consider projects for Funding for Results. The teaching and learning focus must be clear in all proposals. Since FFR originated as part of a state assessment initiative, it is critical that methods to measure the effectiveness of the project be built into the design. Thus, it is expected that all projects will have a well-developed assessment component. Reasonable equipment items that are necessary for carrying out the project may be included in the proposal. However, it is unlikely that a proposal solely for equipment, with the justification that modern equipment makes for better pedagogy, will be funded.

There are two categories of grants, Demonstration and Implementation:

Demonstration Grants
• The purpose of Demonstration Grants is to provide faculty and staff with the opportunity to try new ideas for which no significant background or information exists to predict the likelihood of success. Demonstration Grant proposals may also be pilot projects.
• Demonstration projects will be funded for up to two years, at a maximum of $15,000. At current funding levels, it is anticipated that three to four proposals of this size will be awarded per year.

Implementation Grants
• The FFR Implementation Grant program will provide funds to support projects for which evidence indicates that the project may be adaptable to a reasonably-sized audience at Southeast. This evidence may come from the following sources: a previously successful FFR Demonstration Grant; published activities that have been demonstrated to have a positive impact on teaching and learning; and/or activities from other institutions that have been demonstrated to have a positive impact on teaching and learning. Regardless of the source of the evidence of previous success, the evidence must be clearly articulated in the narrative of the proposal.
• The FFR Implementation Grant program seeks to bring about institutionalization of various successful activities. To this end, the proposal’s sponsoring unit within the University must agree to provide some budgetary support for the project in its final two years. In addition, the proposal must present a plan for continuation of the project once FFR funding has ended.
• Implementation projects will be funded for up to three years at a maximum of $45,000 for the entire project. At current funding levels, it is anticipated that one proposal of this size will be awarded per year.

• Proposal Format
  • The proposal includes a title page, narrative, and budget page.
  • For both Demonstration and Implementation Grants, the narrative must contain:
    ▪ Identification of the teaching/learning problem that will be affected by the funding of this proposal.
    ▪ A clear statement of the proposed solution for that problem.
    ▪ The project’s relationship to the unit's or University’s strategic plan/priorities or current initiatives.
    ▪ Plan of activities designed to achieve the goals—WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? HOW? Explain how this is different from what others have tried.
    ▪ Plan for Evaluation: Describe indicators of success/data to be tracked, including a description of baseline data to be utilized in evaluation.
    ▪ Timeline.
• For Implementation Grants, the narrative must also contain:
  ▪ Evidence that the proposed plan is likely to succeed. This may take the form of preliminary data, published research, conference proceedings, or successful programs from other universities (with supporting data).
  ▪ A description of plans for keeping the program running (if successful) beyond the funding period of the grant.
  ▪ A plan for dissemination of the results to the University community.

• The narrative should be single-spaced, in 11 point font or larger. It is limited to three (3) pages for the Demonstration Grants. The proposal is more detailed for Implementation Grants so the narrative may be up to six (6) pages. A literature-cited section may be included, but may be no more than two (2) pages. No appendices are allowed.

• **Budget items allowed**
  • Consumable supplies
  • Student labor at minimum wage
  • Graduate Assistant (be sure to include the cost of fee waivers, etc.)
  • Equipment related to the project
  • Mileage and travel directly related to delivering the project to its audience
  • Participant Stipends
  • Release time (The amount of release time is limited and must be very well justified; department or unit support for this is encouraged.)

• **FFR Evaluation Criteria**
  • Is the teaching/learning problem clearly identified?
  • Is the proposal clearly stated and innovative?
  • Is the project related to the unit's or University’s strategic plan/priorities or current initiatives?
  • Are expected outcomes clearly defined, and is a clear plan of assessment identified?
  • Does the project-plan demonstrate potential for achieving expected outcomes?
  • What is the likelihood that the project will lead to enhanced learning?
  • Is the budget reasonable and well justified?
  • For Implementation Grants only: Can the plan be sustained beyond FFR funding?

• **Proposal Submission**
  • Proposals are to be submitted via the FFR Moodle course. Any staff member without access to Moodle who wishes to submit a proposal should contact Chuck McAllister (edmcallister@semo.edu; 651-2062).
  • A hard copy of the title page with all signatures must be delivered to the Office of the Provost.
  • The deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm (CST), Monday, November 10, 2014.