The Edwin O. Smith
F O U N D A T I O N

P.O. Box 39
Storrs, CT 06268-0039

To: E. O. Smith Faculty and Staff
From: The Edwin O. Smith Foundation
Date: February 4, 2021

Re: Call for Grant Proposals for School Year 2021-22

The Edwin O. Smith Foundation is dedicated to enriching E. O. Smith's commitment to learning. One initiative that demonstrates this commitment is through an annual call for proposals that seek funding to promote opportunity and excellence for all students.

At this time, the Foundation is seeking competitive grant proposals from faculty and staff for projects that support teaching effectiveness, scholarly or experiential merit, and/or other forms of student accomplishment. Successful proposals should provide a mechanism for new or improved approaches to teaching, scholarship, and student achievement in any curricular or co-curricular area (e.g. athletics, career and technical education, the arts). Proposals that demonstrate creativity and innovation in advancing the student experience, and have the potential to impact a large number of students, are desired. It is expected that requests fall outside of the typical budget within the corresponding school year (e.g. 2021-22).

Additional information, including the application guidelines, an FAQ document, and scoring criteria are attached.

Proposals must be submitted **no later than April 27, 2021**. Submissions should be sent in electronic form (Word or PDF) to eosfoundationgrants@gmail.com.

On behalf of the Edwin O. Smith Foundation, we look forward to receiving your proposals.

Gail Bruhn   Sandy Chafouleas
Chairs

Edwin O. Smith Foundation
GRANT REQUEST APPLICATION
Fiscal Year 2021-22

Title of Project	
Person(s) Leading Application (Name, position)	
Other Persons Involved in Application (Names, positions)	
Project Timeline (e.g. Sept-Dec)	
Total Amount Requested	

Description of the project
For example – what is it, how is it innovative, which faculty/staff and other others will be involved, which student population is involved and why this focus, what is the timeline?

Statement of need
For example - how does this project fill a need/gap, what problem are you trying to solve in advancing the student experience, why can't it be accomplished without this funding?

Expected Outcomes/Impact
For example – which student population(s) are involved and how is it relevant to their learning experience? What are the expected outcomes (e.g. learning, achievement, growth), how are outcomes measured, and what is the potential long-term impact?

Budget
For example – detail each category (amount, narrative justification, attach cost estimates if applicable), explain any cost-share, and provide clear description as to how alternative resources are not available to support the budget items.

Expected Use of the Award
For example – is funding for a single use (e.g. attend a single event) or will it have longer-term benefit (e.g. durable equipment, professional development)? If successful, is it anticipated that additional funding requests will be made to continue the program? What plans might be possible to use these funds as seed for future funding, either through the normal budget process, fundraising, or other grants?

Previous Funding (if applicable)
For example – has this project received past funding from the Foundation or another source outside of the typical school budget? If so, provide the brief report evaluating project results, and provide an explanation as to why a new funding request is being made.

Check:

| | If funded, I agree to submit a brief report evaluating project results (e.g. how funds were used, how objectives were met/not met, potential for broader impact, plans for next steps). The evaluation will be submitted to the Foundation within 3 months of the project end date. If the project is not able to be completed within the proposed timeline, I will submit a request (with justification) for extension. |
| | I have confirmed that I have discussed this application with my supervisor, and understand any implications for my department. |

Signature of Applicant   Date

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to submit a grant application?

Any faculty or staff member is eligible to apply. The applicant must be employed by EOS or in a codified EOS position such as a coach or a Director (the affiliation does not require full-time employment by EOS). Note that the appropriate supervisor must provide signature of approval.

What type of proposals is the Foundation seeking?

Successful proposals should provide a mechanism for new and/or improved approaches to teaching, scholarship, and student achievement in any curricular or co-curricular area (e.g. athletics, career and technical education, arts). <u>Creativity and innovation are highly encouraged with regard to how funding advances the student experience, and strong consideration is given to proposals that have the potential to impact a large number of students</u>. Examples of recently funded proposals include summer acceleration programs, hosting state academic competitions, technology enhancements, mobile language lab, E. O. Smith Reads, and Democratic Dialogue.

How can I increase the odds of successful review?

First, make sure to review the pieces to the application and the scoring criteria. *Second*, be concise in your responses but make sure to fully address each piece – assume that reviewers may not be familiar with structures or content so it is important to explain in a way that is easy to read, easy to follow, and easy to find information. *Third*, if you are collaborating on a proposal - within or outside of the school (e.g. multiple departments, student organization, community group) – make sure to emphasize this collaborative relationship in shaping the proposal. *Fourth*, make sure to fully explain the possible reach of your project – that is, the anticipated number of directly impacted students (e.g. specific grade, subpopulation) during the project period as well as the possible long-term impact (e.g. materials that might be used by X students over X years).

What can I ask for in a budget?

Annually, the Foundation strives to provide $15,000-$25,000 through this grant competition. Generally, individual awards are not made for grants not exceeding $2,000 –but proposals typically have ranged from $1,000-$5,000. It is expected that proposals requesting over $5,000 grants are the exception, not the norm, and must include clear and compelling justification for the request.

Funding is not intended to cover core items that should fall within the regular school budget (e.g. textbooks, calculators). Foundation grants are intended to supplement, not supplant, traditional public funding. Cost-share (e.g. BOE) is allowable and desirable.

Any budget category is allowable – and thus can include faculty or staff stipend, materials and supplies, technology, travel, or consultant/speaker costs. Supporting justification in the form of brief narrative is required for each item, and when applicable, cost estimates should be appended to the application.

When will I receive feedback on my application?

During the review process, generally in May, the committee may ask an applicant to provide clarification responses about a proposal.

It is anticipated that feedback and notifications regarding funding status will be announced in early June.*

If your project is expected to start prior to the beginning of the next school year (e.g. summer initiative), please make sure to emphasize your timeline on your application to allow for timely review and feedback.

Who can I contact to get more information?

We want your proposal to be successful - and are here to help answer your questions as you craft a winning proposal! For example, we are open to setting up meeting opportunities to discuss proposal ideas.

Foundation points of contact within the school include:
- Cassandra Rowett, crowett@EOSmith.org
- Shawn Santasiere, ssantasiere@EOSmith.org

Foundation points of contact outside of the school include:
- Gail Bruhn (Chair), cotuit42@yahoo.com
- Sandy Chafouleas, sandychafouleas@gmail.com

Edwin O. Smith Foundation Grant Awards for Faculty and Staff

REVIEWER SCORING SHEET

An application may receive up to 40 total points, divided across 3 categories. Each category is scored independently, and summed to provide total points. Narrative comments noting strengths and weaknesses in each area will be provided.

CATEGORY	COMMENTS	SCORE
Impact What is the expected impact on scholarship, achievement, learning, or growth? Examples of high impact include: numbers of students; benefits in perpetuity (versus 1-time); a targeted population (gifted, special education, economically disadvantaged); an area outside of the core curriculum that historically has access to limited funding (e.g., arts, music, languages); an area demonstrated to be particularly critical to long-term student success.		**(of 10)**
Justification/Benefit Is a strong case made for the proposed funding in terms of need? Is the proposed funding likely to lead to clear, understandable and measurable benefits to students? Have similar past awards resulted in significant student benefit? Are budget details adequate to assess actual spending, and are they consistent with the description?		**(of 15)**
Overall quality Is the overall proposal clear in describing scope and expected outcomes? Does it have appropriate justification, and sufficient detail throughout the proposal? If similar awards were made in the past, is the outcome from that funding carefully described?		**(of 15)**
Total		**(of 40)**