

Research Grant for Strengthening Children and Youth

David O. McKay School of Education

Made possible by a generous donation from Ira A. Fulton

Overview:

This award supports major research projects for a 2-3 year period in the approximate amount of \$20,000 per year (maximum of \$25,000 per year). The optional third year of funding is designed to facilitate the creation of products/interventions based on the research conducted during the first two years. Second and third year funding is contingent on project progress and the continuation of financial resources.

Scope/Significance of Funded Projects:

The research project should address an issue with implications for national practice with respect to *strengthening children/youth*. The proposal should delineate a specific topic and should be well grounded in high-quality research and theory.

Examples of pertinent research topics include: transfer of school-based learning to applied settings, social-emotional skills, factors that contribute to academic achievement among disadvantaged populations (e.g., literacy, communication), mentoring/modeling, and moral reasoning and decision making.

Inter-disciplinary Collaboration:

The project must involve at least three faculty members from at least two of the MSE's departments (additional personnel outside the MSE can also participate as long as this minimum requirement is met). Optimally, at least one of the researchers will be a junior faculty member.

Investigators are encouraged to form research teams with a breadth of expertise and perspectives (e.g., K-12 teachers, family/social scientists, statisticians). Proposals should delineate the roles and responsibilities of each team member. Applicants interested in meeting with other MSE faculty members to discuss options for collaborative research should email shauna_valentine@byu.edu regarding the formation of research alliances.

Student Mentoring Component:

The project should involve at least two students who can participate actively in the project and receive research mentoring. Proposals that meaningfully involve students across many aspects of the project will receive higher priority.

Timeline:

Two years, beginning in January (unless otherwise specified in the proposal) to December, with a possible third year extension to develop associated products and/or services. (For example, Year 1 = data

collection; Year 2 = complete data collection, data analyses, and dissemination; Year 3 = development of an interactive professional development program for K-12 teachers based on the completed project).

Funding:

Approximately \$20,000 per year (\$25,000 per year maximum) of which approximately 70% should be designated for student research assistants. No more than \$4,000 per year may be designated for travel related expenses (and travel to professional conferences is not funded).

Expectation for Solicitation of Future Extramural Funding:

Recipients of this award will be required to apply for extramural funding upon completion of the project (in the tradition of “seed grant” competitions). Proposal applications should include a brief description of how this award would lead to well-crafted extramural applications.

Authors whose proposals are not funded by this award are strongly encouraged to revise the proposal for extramural competitions. Assistance in locating relevant extramural competitions is available from Roxanna Johnson (422-1922).

Products:

In addition to research publication(s), projects should produce either ideas for products (assessment tools, curricula, classroom materials, etc.) or services (community empowerment initiatives, consultation to BYU Partnership schools, classroom interventions, etc.). Successful projects may therefore be eligible for a possible third year of funding to develop associated products or services. A formal application for third-year funding will be required along with evidence of the project’s outcomes.

Reporting:

Annual reports will be submitted to Dr. Barbara Culatta. Annual reports should specify progress toward project completion, including dissemination activities (e.g., presentations and publications). Final publication(s) will acknowledge research funding provided by the “Alliance for the Strength of Youth of the David O. McKay School of Education, Brigham Young University.” All recipients and students involved in the funded projects will present their findings at a MSE sponsored Annual Research Conference in spring.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF ALL PROPOSALS

All proposals will be evaluated on the following (see requirements education.byu.edu):

1. Statement of Problem -- clear and convincing rationale; national-level scope/import; clear objectives and research questions.
2. Review of Literature -- critical analysis of recent literature supporting need for the study; evidence of potential for extending existing knowledge base.
3. Procedures -- adequate design to answer research questions; realistic time-line; definition of roles of participants; appropriateness of data analyses; protection of participants.
4. Proposed Products – dissemination plans and audiences; contributions to educational practice; student mentoring (required); plans to obtain future extramural funding (required).
5. Budget -- clear narrative of each budget line-item to show adequacy and appropriateness of expenditures.

THE RESEARCHER'S PROPOSAL

The researcher should attach a proposal describing the project (attending to the criteria listed above). Prior to submitting the proposal, the researcher should discuss and receive feedback on the proposal from colleagues, the department representative to the School of Education Research Committee, and the Department Chair. After receiving feedback, proposal should be submitted via email to the Department Chair saved in the following format: **Lastname_first_MSE.doc** Proposals will only be accepted from the Department Chair.

HISTORY OF PAST FUNDING BY THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Faculty members who have received School of Education research funds in the last three years should indicate the name of the funded project(s) for each year, the amount of funds awarded, and products resulting from that project. Products include publications, publications in press, manuscripts currently under submission, external funds awarded or applied for. Please describe the nature of the publication format (e.g., type of journal, peer review, rejection rate).

THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S STATEMENT

The Department Chair should attach a statement regarding the proposal. Typically, the chair will have been involved in the early discussion and refinement of the proposal and can indicate the proposal's potential contribution to the mission and goals of the department. He/She will then submit your proposal and his/her statement to the Office of the Dean.

Completed applications and Department Chair recommendations should be submitted to Daniela Cisternas (daniela_cisternas@byu.edu) by the date posted on the research website (education.byu.edu/research).