The Principal’s Teaching Award Scheme

SMALL PROJECT GRANTS

An initiative for small project grants up to £1500.

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

This small grant scheme, coordinated by the Institute for Academic Development, is designed to support the enhancement of learning and teaching. The money is intended to allow applicants to take an enquiry-based approach to some of these issues without needing to engage in a substantial investigation or submit a comprehensive project proposal. It is anticipated that many of the projects funded by these smaller grants will provide the foundation for a regular PTAS application in the future.

We particularly welcome proposals which address priorities in the University’s and/or Colleges’ Teaching and Learning Enhancement Strategies.

We would particularly value bids which focus on curriculum innovation and/or student-staff collaboration. We are also keen to encourage bids which demonstrate student involvement in the project itself. This could be, for example, where undergraduate and/or PGT students are active participants in the bid teams or will be involved later in developing and shaping the project. Student involvement should go beyond simply collecting data from students, they should have a clear say in how the project goes forward. As with previous rounds of PTAS we still value the involvement of PGR students in the PTAS process. The expectation is that the UoE staff member who is Principal Investigator will hold a contract that covers the period of the award applied for.

The main criteria for acceptance are the promise of the proposed initiative and its potential impact. For details on what is expected in the application, please consult the guidelines below. No more than two proposals from any one School will be funded in this competition. The small project grant scheme is directed at teams of staff who have not yet been successful with a regular PTAS grant application. This means that members of previously successful teams can only be involved in the role of mentor to staff applying for a small project grant and providing small project grant. Principal Investigators may not apply.

Please note that as with the regular PTAS grant scheme, all grant recipients will be expected to submit a brief report at the conclusion of their project and also present their work at the annual PTAS Forum. The final report should outline briefly the nature of the work completed, outcomes, benefits student learning, dissemination activity (where relevant), and, if possible, how the activity could inform future work or be transferred to other subject areas in the University. See below for further details.
GUIDELINES

In no more than 750 words, please describe your planned project addressing each of the following questions:

1. What is the title of the proposed initiative?
2. Why is this project important? What significant issue does it address?
3. What questions are you hoping to answer?
4. How do you intend to answer them?
5. Who will carry out the investigation?
6. How will any collected data be analysed?
7. How will results be communicated to colleagues and feed into or inform enhancement practices?
8. How will the funding be used?
9. What is the timescale for the project?
10. Equality and Diversity consideration. When developing projects it is important to consider their possible impact on equality and diversity. Further guidance and information on relevant policy and procedures can be found here: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/equality-diversity/impact-assessment

You must also complete and provide the small grant proposal cover page, which includes details of the team, and a 250 word abstract.

DEADLINE AND SUBMITTING APPLICATION

Deadline for applications: please see the PTAS submission deadlines.

Please email your proposal (the 750 word project outline, plus completed cover page) as an email attachment (PDF) to iad.teach@ed.ac.uk

REPORTS

Templates for the small report requested at the completion of the project are available on the PTAS webpages http://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/learning-teaching/funding/funding/applying-to-ptas