



The University of Vermont
COLLEGE OF NURSING
AND HEALTH SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

CALL FOR PROPOSALS CURRICULUM INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

PURPOSE: Innovation grants are designed to stimulate teaching innovation within the College that meets CNHS strategic goals and, ideally, also contribute to the financial status of the College. Innovation grants provide funding to support the development of new educational programs, courses, travel courses, approaches to pedagogy, curricular collaborations across disciplines, and/or technologies to support innovation in the classroom. Various types and sizes of innovations will be considered (e.g., innovative teaching method within an existing course; new academic program with curricular innovation); grant amounts will be scaled accordingly. All curriculum innovation grant awardees must present their funded achievements at a CNHS brown bag lunch and submit a report within a year of receiving the funds.

DESCRIPTION: One-year curriculum innovation grants in amounts up to \$5,000 are available to faculty or groups of faculty with primary appointments in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS). Funds are to be used for curricular innovations and therefore may be used for materials and supplies or special equipment (generic equipment such as a computer is excluded) to support innovation. Funds can also be used for teaching salaries or course releases and/or travel expenses related to course or program development. Funds may also be used to support hourly student wages (plus appropriate fringe rate).

ELIGIBILITY: All CNHS faculty or groups of faculty who have enough credits of teaching at UVM to be included in the full-time or part-time faculty union (including lecturers, clinical educators, etc.) are eligible for curriculum innovation grants. Collaborators, but not the principal innovator, may be from other schools and colleges or other Universities. If a faculty member received a CNHS Curriculum Innovation grant during the previous academic year, they are not eligible for this year's grants. Faculty/faculty groups whose chair(s) do not support their applications are not eligible for these grants.

CURRICULUM INNOVATION CRITERIA: To be eligible, proposals must meet at least one of the following criteria. The extent to which they meet one or more of these criteria will be critical in the selection process.

- cutting edge teaching strategies, course designs, and/or technologies
- financially & operationally efficient/economically sound/generates revenue for CNHS and/or for UVM

- demonstrated sustainability
- non-duplicative; minimal overlap with other CNHS/UVM programs or courses
- increases diversity of CNHS students or increases cultural and linguistic sensitivity and advocacy of CNHS students
- benefits wider community
- increases awareness or status of CNHS and/or UVM
- consolidates related courses over disciplines (e.g., research)

EXAMPLES OF POTENTIAL CURRICULUM INNOVATIONS:

- interprofessional education and/or interprofessional practice
- integrative health
- simulations including web-based simulations
- outreach such as service learning
- local field study
- efforts to change public policy
- designing and/or applications of new educational or learning tools

AVAILABILITY: As many grants as possible will be funded, up to a combined total of \$5,000.

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on **April 1, 2024** to be considered. Awards will be announced during the final CNHS faculty meeting of the Spring 2024 semester and funds will be available beginning July 1, 2024.

FORMAT: Curriculum Innovation proposals should be no longer than 4,000 words. (sections 1-4; 12 point font, double-spaced, one inch margins), excluding cover sheet, C.V., and other appended materials. To assist the review team, the proposal **MUST** include the following sections in order, with headings.

1. Cover Sheet
2. Introduction & Background
 - a) Describe the problem/question/learning or teaching goal to be addressed with this innovation, including literature focused on this problem/question.
 - b) Describe how the innovation addresses the problem/question/learning or teaching goal, including literature focused on this problem/question.
3. Description of the Innovation, including:
 - a) Subject matter, course to which it will be applied
 - b) How the innovation differs from the manner in which the curriculum is currently presented
 - c) Required tools, procedures, technology, materials, space, scheduling, etc.
 - d) Required personnel
 - e) Potential positive and/or negative impacts on other courses, programs, outreach activities, etc.
 - f) Strategic benefits: How the innovation fits within the College's/the University's educational priorities
 - g) How the outcome of the innovation will be documented, measured, and evaluated*
 - h) The potential for scholarship of teaching* (e.g., publications or presentations about the innovation in professional publications/at professional conferences)

- i) How the innovation will be sustained in the long run
4. Limitations – address potential limitations of the innovation or problems that may be encountered and how these might be addressed.
5. References
6. Budget
 - a) Budget Worksheet
 - b) Budget Justification: Justify all items in the budget and (if applicable) describe efforts to use available resources on-campus.
7. Appendices
 - a) Curriculum vitae of principal innovator/applicant
 - b) Letter of support from applicant’s department chair
 - c) Additional appendices as needed, e.g., other letters of support, survey instruments, etc.

* Mentorship is available for applicants with strong proposals for curricular innovation but who lack experience with assessment and the scholarship of teaching. Depending on the strength of the proposal in other areas, receiving the award may be contingent upon this mentorship.

APPLICATIONS THAT DO NOT INCLUDE EACH OF THESE ITEMS AND/OR NOT DO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.

SELECTION: Proposals will be reviewed by the CNHS Research Committee. The committee will make funding recommendations to the Dean, who will make the final selection and announce the awards.

Awards will be made on the basis of merit with special consideration to the following:

- Potential for depth/breadth of educational impact
- Consistency with CNHS strategic priorities
- Feasibility and sustainability
- Demonstrated need
- Potential for scholarship of teaching and learning

DISBURSEMENT: Budgets will be administered through the home department of the principal investigator. All funds must be spent by June 30, 2025 and all expenses (other than encumbered salary) must be entered into the PeopleSoft system by June 15, 2025.

REPORTING: : The PI must submit a report and present/participate in a brown bag lunch by a date to be determined by the dean, no later than April 2025.

SUBMISSION: Applications will be submitted and reviewed through UVM InfoReady portal <https://uvm.infoready4.com/>.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
CURRICULUM INNOVATION PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

Amount requested: _____ (up to a maximum of \$5,000)

Project/Curriculum Innovation Title: _____

Primary Faculty: _____

Additional Faculty/Collaborators/Investigators (please list all):

Chair's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Abstract: (No more than 250 words):

Date: _____ Signature: _____

