

# WELCOME

## Office of Research Internal Funding Opportunity: TSMG

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We will begin at :10 after the hour.  
Recording in progress during the presentation.  
Thank you for joining us.



# OFFICE OF RESEARCH

## Teacher Scholar Mini Grant Program 2026-27

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Phil Costanzo

Professor, Bailey College of Science and Math (Chemistry & Biochemistry)

Chair of Grants Review Committee

Faculty Fellow for Office of Research

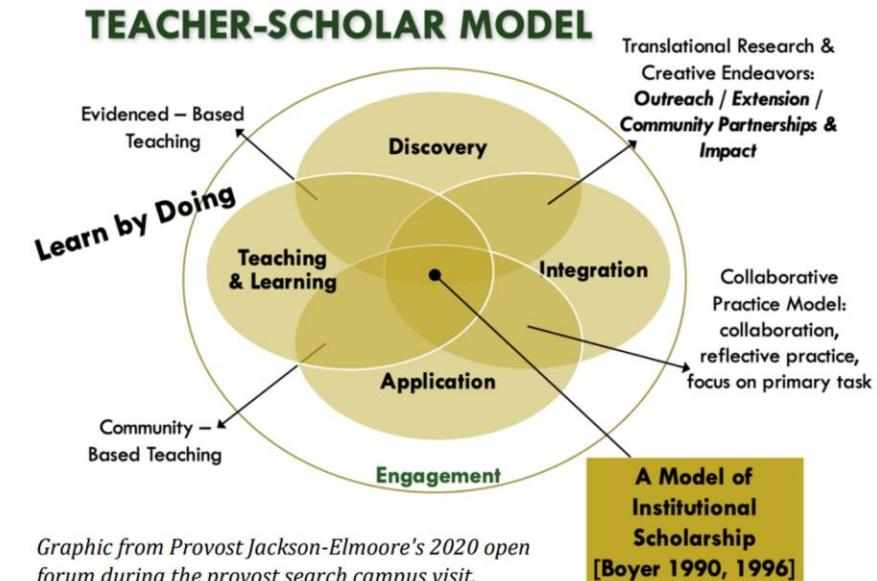


**CAL POLY**  
Office of Research



# TEACHER-SCHOLAR MINI GRANT (TSMG)

- The Cal Poly framework for the teacher-scholar model was adopted by the Academic Senate in [AS-725-11 Resolution on Defining and Adopting the Teacher-Scholar Model](#) and continues to guide our learn-by-doing pedagogy and our commitment to research, scholarly and creative activities.
- The TSMG Program, supported by the Office of the Provost, expands internal funding to support our institutional commitment to advancing discovery, integration, application, and engagement in the context of teaching and learning.



# TSMG OVERVIEW: THREE OPTIONS

Proposals may request up to \$11,000 for work in one of the three core areas and can request supplemental funding for student participation (excluding Proposal Development track).

1. **Discovery & Translation**—to develop or carry out a clearly defined scope of work resulting in a scholarly product that advances research, scholarly and creative activities. Fundable areas include but are not limited to basic or applied research; artistic, archival, creative, or design products; peer reviewed publications; professional workshop convenings; research proposal preparations; operational bridge funding for ongoing projects.
2. **Teaching & Learning**—to support the development of teaching, classroom, or curricular innovations. Fundable areas include but are not limited to those that develop or institute curricular or co-curricular programs; program assessment; innovative practice; collaborative engagement; community engaged teaching and learning.
3. **Proposal Development**—to support faculty in the preparation and submission of external funding proposals. (Supported by the Office of the President.)



# STUDENT SUPPLEMENT

**Student supplement** (up to \$4,000)- \*for *Discovery & Translation or Teaching & Learning tracks only*

- In addition to the operational budget (up to \$11,000), faculty can request one student supplement of up to \$4,000 to support student participation in their funded project.
- The student supplement can support one or more students but must not exceed \$4,000 across all students and must directly connect student participation to learn-by-doing.
- Student supplement only supports the fellowship model, not employment.

The award maximum is \$11,000 (+\$4,000 student supplement).

# TSMG ELIGIBILITY

- **Review RFP for eligibility**
- All faculty unit employees. Must hold an appointment for the duration of the award (JUL 2026 - JUN 2027).
- Applicants may only submit one proposal per TSMG funding cycle as either PI or co-PI. Applicants cannot submit a proposal as if they have received two TSMG awards in the preceding 5 years.
- Applicants can only re-submit the same proposal three times – one original submission and two resubmissions.
- Applicants may apply for RSCA and TSMG, but scope of work **MUST** be different and clearly defined.
- Awardees will remain eligible for other Office of Research internal programs (e.g., RSCA).
- Funding will be awarded only to projects that do not have current funding from other sources (e.g., RSCA).

# TYPES OF PROJECTS FOR TSMG

- All types of research, scholarly, and creative activities.
- This includes, but is not limited to, empirical and theoretical research, applied design and development, scholarship of teaching and learning, writing of books, and the production of art.
- Grants may be awarded for instructional improvement, course development, or evaluation. For these awards, it is exceedingly valuable to demonstrate how the curriculum will be expanded beyond Cal Poly. It is also important to provide evidence of knowledge & training in the proposed field of pedagogy.



# USE OF TSMG FUNDS

Projects run July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027; extensions will not be granted.

- Faculty assigned time (Max. 2 WTUs maximum)
- Additional compensation (Max. \$6,000 per project and per individual)
- Support for student assistants
- Support for temporary personnel (e.g., consultants, collaborators)
- Supplies, services, and equipment
- Travel to conduct research
- **Conference travel is permitted**
- Incentives for research subjects



# TSMG REVIEW CRITERIA

## Standardized criteria (DT & TL)

- Intellectual merit (7 pts)
- Broader impacts (7 pts)
- Relevance to Teacher-Scholar model (4 pts)
- Feasibility (4 pts)

## Standardized criteria (PDP)

- Revision plan (5 pts)
- Intellectual merit (5 pts)
- Broader impacts (5 pts)
- Feasibility (5 pts)

## Additional criteria

Eligibility Verification and PI qualifications



# TSMG REVIEW PROCESS

- In order to ensure proposals are equitably reviewed, the Review Panel uses a model based on **full time equivalent (FTE) faculty** across the six colleges, ensuring proposals are reviewed against other proposals in the same college.
- Each proposal is reviewed and scored by at least three (3) Panel members, with at least one member being from the applicants' home college.
- Proposals will be evaluated according to standardized criteria including relevance to the teacher-scholar model, intellectual merit, and broader impacts. Please review the [Rating Definitions and Criteria](#) for more information on how the reviewed proposals will be evaluated.
- Please note: Use of Artificial Intelligence. In accordance with external funding agencies, such as NSF, NIH, PRF and others, any use of AI should be readily disclosed in the proposal. Original writing takes precedence and offers maximum value to a reviewer. Proposals and topics found to have content or sections substantially developed by AI will be **returned without review**.

# TSMG AWARD DATA OVER LAST 3 YEARS

	25/26		24/25		23/24	
	Dollars Awarded	Proposals Awarded	Dollars Awarded	Proposals Awarded	Dollars Awarded	Proposals Awarded
CAED	25,840.00	2.00	-	-	13,020.00	1.00
CAFES	43,968.00	3.00	74,070	5.00	42,106.00	3.00
CENG	82,246.00	6.00	29,112	2.00	51,000.00	4.00
CLA	93,977.00	7.00	153,932	11.00	153,443.10	11.00
BCSM	55,192.00	4.00	113,760	9.00	57,795.00	5.00
OCOB	60,720.00	5.00	22,552	2.00	46,702.00	4.00
Library	-	-	14,502	1.00	15,000.00	1.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>361,943.00</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>407,928</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>379,066.10</b>	<b>29.00</b>

# TSMG AWARD DATA OVER LAST 3 YEARS

	25/26			24/25			23/24		
	% of Total Faculty	% of Awarded Dollars	Award \$ relative to faculty size	% of Total Faculty	% of Awarded Dollars	Award \$ relative to faculty size	% of Total Faculty	% of Awarded Dollars	Award \$ relative to faculty size
CAED	8.4%	7.1%	-1.2%	8.5%	0.0%	-8.5%	8.6%	3.4%	-5.2%
CAFES	11.0%	12.1%	1.2%	11.0%	18.2%	7.1%	11.5%	11.1%	-0.4%
CENG	19.8%	22.7%	3.0%	19.7%	7.1%	-12.6%	19.7%	13.5%	-6.3%
CLA	28.2%	26.0%	-2.2%	28.0%	37.7%	9.7%	27.2%	40.5%	13.2%
BCSM	24.6%	15.2%	-9.3%	24.8%	27.9%	3.1%	24.7%	15.2%	-9.5%
OCOB	7.3%	16.8%	9.5%	7.0%	5.5%	-1.4%	7.2%	12.3%	5.2%
Library	0.9%	0.0%	-0.9%	1.0%	3.6%	2.5%	1.1%	4.0%	2.9%

# HOW TO APPLY

- Apply via InfoReady at [CalPoly.InfoReady4.com](https://CalPoly.InfoReady4.com)
- Read RFP, rubric and rating definitions at [research.calpoly.edu/tsmg](https://research.calpoly.edu/tsmg)
- New! Must include NSF style CV from Science CV <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciency/>
- Deadline to apply is R 9 APR 2026 at **NOON** PST (No late submissions will be accepted, please save as you go)
- All applicants will be notified in June 2026.

# TIPS FOR TSMG PROGRAM APPLICATION

- Read the RFP! To achieve the most possible points in the review of your application, please refer to the scoring sheet. Be strategic in addressing the RFP and allocating appropriate space to the review criteria
- Consider asking previous awardees for drafts of their proposal. Examples of past funded projects can be viewed on our website: <https://research.calpoly.edu/tsmg>
- Have your peers review your application before submitting.
- Remember that you are writing for an audience that may not have expertise in your field. If you are using technical terminology, please write your proposal so that reviewers can understand and make an informed decision.
- Use figures, **Bold**, *italics* and underline appropriately.
- Clearly articulate your research objective.
- Burden falls to the proposal writer to provide clarity and importance.

# TIPS FOR TSMG PROGRAM APPLICATION

- When creating your project budget, we recommend starting with the Excel budget template before filling out the budget fields in the InfoReady application. The Excel budget template has formulas in it to automatically calculate the total budget amount, ensuring you do not exceed the program maximum.  
\*Fill out the budget detail tab, and then refer to the InfoReady inputs tab when completing the application in InfoReady.
- Budget template must match fields entered into InfoReady.**
- We encourage increased clarity in the budget justification (payrate, hours, duration). Also indicate the type of funding this will be used as (“seed”, “bridge”, “closure”)
- The Cal Poly Student employee handbook says the allowable pay range for students is \$16.90 up to \$24.00 per hour. Student stipends are also an option when offering an educational opportunity.
- Faculty compensation, can be based on your hourly rate to use as a guideline. See <https://preaward.calpoly.edu/selected-sponsored-project-costs>

# CONTACT US

For assistance with your application, please contact:

## **Office of Research**

- Web/ view full RFPs: [research.calpoly.edu/tsmg](http://research.calpoly.edu/tsmg)
- E-mail: [research@calpoly.edu](mailto:research@calpoly.edu)



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# THANK YOU!

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Questions?

# WHICH PROGRAM SHOULD I APPLY FOR?

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What type of funding do I need?

“Seed”



TSMG

“Bridge”



TSMG

“Closure”



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*Future RSCA*

What does my project create?

“Fundamental and/or applied  
knowledge”



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*Future RSCA*

“Pedagogy and/or curriculum”



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# PROGRAM DIFFERENCES

	RSCA	TEACHER-SCHOLAR
Amount	Up to \$18,000.	Up to \$11,000. (+\$4,000 student supplement)
Available faculty assigned time or compensation (semester conversion accounted for)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 WTUs (semester)</li> <li>▪ 2 WTUs and \$9,000 in additional compensation</li> <li>▪ \$9,000 in additional compensation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 WTUs (semester)</li> <li>▪ \$6,000 per faculty (capped at \$9,000 for all co-PIs)</li> </ul>
Requires tenured faculty to show that this research is a <u>new</u> scholarly direction. ("Seed")	✓	Not required, but allowed
Can be a source of ongoing funding by augmenting currently funded projects to expand the scope of work. ("Bridge and/or Closure")		✓
Funds the development of teaching, classroom, or curricular innovations.		✓
Allows conference travel.		✓
Provides add comp and assigned time to submit proposals to external agency.		✓
Access to external research consultants for proposal support.		✓

