



Office of Consultation and Research in Medical Education (OCRME)

Educational Innovation and Scholarship Grants Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: The innovation areas mentioned in the guidelines don't necessarily fit with the focus of my proposal. How closely does my proposal have to fit with those innovation areas?

A: The trends identified in the guidelines (and Dr. Thibault's article) are quite broad. For instance, "continuing professional education" might include training to improve practitioner competence and/or capabilities, with an emphasis on lifelong learning. The trends are intended to focus both reviewers and investigators on forces that will continue to change healthcare education for the next decade.

Q: What makes a proposal "innovative" or "scholarly"?

A: The purpose of this program is not only to distribute funds to support educational change, but also to support long-term, lasting transformation in medical education. For instance, new curriculum may be useful and necessary, but it may not necessarily be innovative. Qualities that make a proposal *innovative* include taking a new approach to how the content is framed or applied; using a methodology or technology in a way that expands the impact of an educational innovation; combining two or more trends (identified in the guidelines) to achieve a "multiplier effect" in project outcomes. Similarly, *scholarly* projects may address a gap in the medical education literature; address a documented educational problem; test a hypothesis about educational impact; or use a methodology or research tool in a meaningful way.

Q: The guidelines mention interprofessional education. Can proposals include participants from other professions and/or colleges?

A: Yes! While a CCOM faculty or academic staff member needs to provide a departmental hub for the proposed activities, investigators are encouraged to consider interprofessional collaborative practice and education (ICPE) as an innovation. Any CCOM faculty or academic staff member, regardless of profession, may serve as the principal investigator/lead author.

Q: The guidelines state that proposals may be combined for a total request of up to \$60,000. Should these be submitted as separate proposals, or as one?

A: The proposal should be submitted as one proposal, but with roles and responsibilities between the co-investigators and unique components clearly defined.

Q: Do tables count toward the word count? What about references?

A: Yes, tables count toward the word count. References do not.

Q: What time are proposals due?

A: Proposals are due by 11:59pm on the due date for each round of funding.