



Educational Models and Practices in Theological Education Project Faculty Development Grants, Request for Proposals

As part of its project on Educational Models and Practices in Theological Education, the Association of Theological Schools requests proposals from member schools for grants of up to \$15,000 to support faculty development. As new educational models and practices are developed, faculty are frequently expected to adapt their work, often substantially, to facilitate those models. The Association will make as many as 30 grants to help schools support their faculty in this work of adaptation. The grants are intended to help schools support their faculty to meet institutional needs growing out of changes in educational programming. Funds may be requested to support faculty development activities to help faculty adapt to educational changes, including but not limited to: faculty retreats, purchase of materials, funding “release” time, training in formation, training to facilitate teaching via new delivery systems, course development that utilizes new formats, or revision of curricula to accommodate new educational models or practices.

Preference will be given to proposals that:

- give evidence of cooperation between faculty, administrators, and staff in the design of the faculty development programming,
- explore ways to make development of faculty an ongoing institutional priority and part of the school’s culture,
- give evidence of coherence between the school’s educational programming and faculty skills and practices, and
- contribute to the Association’s knowledge about faculty development and effective approaches to support faculty in the midst of changing roles and expectations.

A portion of the grant funds may be used for personnel costs if needed to offset time given to the project by faculty or staff.

Proposals should include:

1. the project information page, with the signature of the academic dean,
2. a project proposal (attached as a separate document), and
3. the project budget page.

The project information page should include a project abstract of approximately 150 words, and information about the academic dean, the financial contact person, and the person authorized to sign grant requests for the institution.

The project proposal (roughly 1,000 words) must:

- give a brief background of how the project fits within the school’s existing program of faculty development, and the school’s capacity to pursue the project at this time,

- describe the project's activities, the personnel involved, and the timeline of implementation, and
- clearly outline the project activities, measurable goals, and the expected benefits—both immediate and long-term—for the school's work of faculty development.

The budget form should include line items for expenditures and a brief narrative describing the purposes of particular expenditures.

ATS expects the following from those receiving grants: (1) the academic dean and a member of the faculty to attend two Faculty Development Forums, **in June 2018 and March 2019, both scheduled just prior to the meetings of the Chief Academic Officers Society**, to discuss their school's work, and (2) submit a report of approximately 2,500 words on the grant activities and highlighting what was learned through the process. The project report, due on **May 15, 2018**, will be circulated to those attending the **June 2018** forum and may be published in the Association's journal, *Theological Education*. ATS will cover travel, lodging, and other costs of the forums. Signatures on the grant application form serve as agreement to these conditions.