

**2024-2025 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and
the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Collaborative Mentoring Program (CMP) Grants for Mid-Career Tenure-Track & Specialized Faculty**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Date and Deadlines

- Proposal Due Date April 26, 2024 ([Online submission portal](#))
- Award Notification June 1, 2024
- Earliest Start Date July 1, 2024

Program Description

In partnership with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion (OVCDEI), the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) is piloting a program to provide collaborative mentoring grants in support of mid-career tenure-track and instructional specialized faculty (*teaching, research, or clinical associate professors*). The 2024-2025 program is the third year of the program.

The program’s main objective is to prepare faculty members for the next promotion. Submissions are particularly encouraged from groups underrepresented in the associate professor ranks, such as women and faculty of color. Team and individual proposals will be accepted, as well proposals from academic units. Collaborative mentoring teams and academic units can receive up to \$5,000. Individual proposals may receive up to \$1,500.

Collaborative and unit proposals should consist of at least 3-4 members working in a peer-to-peer interdisciplinary team. *Proposals must reflect substantive involvement from team members from different disciplines and/or academic departments.* Teams may also include team members from outside campus to participate (*with restrictions*). The grants will be distributed July 1, 2024 and must conclude by June 30, 2025.

Proposals should demonstrate research, teaching or engagement excellence. This can be conveyed through creating research/writing plans, collaborating on internal and external funding and grants, setting up and running laboratories, developing innovative pedagogy, and cultivating relationships with potential external reviewers, and community organizations.

Proposals should enhance productivity for professional outcomes in the areas of scholarship, grant applications, publications, or community outreach. Projects may consist of developing and achieving teaching excellence through the development of new pedagogical practices, developing new courses, interdisciplinary curricula, and student outcomes. Additionally, proposals may also address work-life barriers and strategies for addressing issues that may limit professional advancement at Illinois.

Individual or team proposals may include funding for:

- Editing services.
- Expenses for a collaborative mentoring partner outside the institution.
- Honoraria for external in-person mentoring or mentoring public events.
- Professional coaching.
- Professional development travel.

Proposals requesting funds for external in-person support should including a letter of support from the proposed mentor for the services to be provided and the associated costs.

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Reporting Requirement

Funded projects should be prepared to give two reports: a mid-year report due December 15 and a final project report due June 15. Each report should highlight the collaborative nature of the work being done, as well as address progress made toward the specific goals or milestone. Each project lead or team is required to present at the LAS annual retreat/event.

Faculty Eligibility

Each project will identify a faculty lead or principal investigator who will assume organizational leadership for the project. A faculty member may only be a lead or PI on one submitted project. However, there is no limit to being on other projects. Applicants are strongly encouraged to include other mid-career faculty members. Preference will be given to individuals/ teams who have not been previously supported.

Proposal Preparation

Format: **Proposals are due by April 26, 2024 (11:59 p.m.)**. Upload a single PDF of your proposal [HERE](#). Guidelines and the maximum number of pages for each section is described below,

Cover/Title Page: (1 page) This page must include the project title, the names of the team members and their primary affiliation (indicate the faculty lead/PI). Contact information, and the funding amount being requested.

Project Summary/Abstract (1 page)

- Include the project's broad goals and objectives.
- Provide a description of the methods or approaches used to achieve the goals.

Project Narrative (1 page)

- Present a description of the project outlining the collaborative nature and broader impact for the department, college, and campus.
- Include how the proposed project leverages resources and strengths, while also filling a need for mid-career faculty.
- Briefly describe the role and qualifications of the individual or team.

Milestones (1 page)

- Provide a description of what will be accomplished along with a timeline.

Budget and Budget Justification (1 page)

- Provide a budget estimate, with a narrative justification for the project being proposed. Indirect costs and salaries/stipends/supplements are not permissible.

Addendum (1 page)

- Proposals requesting funds for external in-person support should include a letter of support/ quote from the proposed mentor/mentoring group for the services to be provided and the associated costs.

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Review Criteria

- *Investigator/Collaborative Team:* How well is the project lead or team well suited to undertake this collaborative project?
- *Impact:* How well does the proposed project address the gap or critical barrier? If the goals and objectives are achieved, what will be improved? How does this project meet or align with the [LAS strategic goals](#)? How it will impact or promote equitable practices and enhance the college and campus goals of building a diverse and inclusive campus community?
- *Approach:* Are the overall strategies described well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Can the project be realistically accomplished in 12-months?

Questions?

For additional information, please send inquiries to LAS-IE@illinois.edu.