



Collaborative Center for Literacy Development

Research Agenda Support Program

Description and Guidelines

Background and Purpose

The Collaborative Center for Literacy Development (CCLD) supports research that is aligned with its literacy research agenda for Kentucky. The center provides funds for Kentucky state university faculty to conduct and disseminate innovative literacy research focused on the following priority topics:

1. Teacher Preparation in Literacy
2. Family and Community Literacy
3. Student Achievement Data
4. School and Program Content

To view CCLD's full research agenda for Kentucky, please visit www.kentuckyliteracy.org

Eligibility

Applicants for Small Research Grants must be faculty members at Kentucky's eight public universities. Faculty members from private institutions may partner with researchers from public universities on grant applications. Applicants for Literacy Dissertation or Thesis Support Awards must be students who are completing a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation at Kentucky's eight public universities.

Awards

Two types of awards are available through June 30, 2012:

- (1) Literacy Dissertation or Thesis Support Awards:** Applicants may request up to \$1,000 to support research for a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation in literacy. These awards may be used to support the work in areas such as data collection, data analysis, or travel. Awardees will be expected to provide CCLD with a summary of their study for inclusion in the CCLD research newsletter. Awards will be made monthly.
- (2) Small Research Grants:** Applicants may request up to \$10,000 to support a research study that advances CCLD's research agenda for Kentucky. These awards may be used to support data collection, data analysis, research assistants, and salary support. At the end of the award period, a full report will be submitted to CCLD and disseminated via the CCLD website. Also, awardees will be expected to author a policy brief or summary to be included in CCLD's research newsletter. Proposal instructions and award criteria are attached. Up to five small research grants will be awarded.

Application Process

Literacy Dissertation or Thesis Support Award:

Applications for a Literacy Dissertation or Thesis Support Award can be found on the CCLD Website at www.kentuckyliteracy.org.

Applications for a Literacy Dissertation or Thesis Support Award can be submitted monthly, and funding decisions will be made by the fifth of the month for applications submitted in the previous month. Applications will be reviewed by the Director of Research and Executive Director, and funding decisions will be based on the relevance of the dissertation or thesis to the CCLD Research Agenda priority topics. Awards will continue until the available funds are expended. Awardees are limited to one Literacy Dissertation or Thesis Support Award during the fiscal year.

Small Research Grants:

Applicants for a Small Research Grant must submit **three paper copies** and one electronic copy (in Microsoft Word or PDF format) of the following application components:

- A cover page (Attachment A) containing the title of the proposed research; applicant's name(s) and university/departmental affiliation (if multiple authors, a PI must be identified); and contact information including full mailing address, e-mail, phone and fax numbers
- An abstract summarizing the goals, methods, data, and potential implications of the proposed project for policy and practice
- A proposal, not to exceed eight double-spaced pages (not including references) with 12 pt. font and 1" margins on all sides describing the background and rationale for the study, the research methods employed (participants, data collection, theoretical or statistical models as appropriate), the deliverables, the potential implications for policy and practice, and the direct connections to the CCLD research agenda priority topics; proposals should include specific research questions as well as a description of how these questions align with the CCLD research agenda research questions
- A detailed timeline of research activities, including deliverables to CCLD
- An itemized budget and budget narrative detailing the allocation of funds requested in the format provided in Attachment B; in preparing the budget, include no more than 8% indirect costs (for faculty from universities other than UK)
- Current curriculum vitae for all applicants

Applications for 2011-2012 Small Research Grants are due on September 30, 2011. The award period for 2011 awards is October 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012. Final reports are due August 1, 2012. Applications for the Small Research Grants will be evaluated by a review panel consisting of CCLD staff members and representatives from Kentucky universities. Proposals will be judged according to the following criteria:

- The potential relevance of the proposed research in advancing the CCLD research agenda for Kentucky and for improving literacy policy and practice; particular attention will be paid to how closely the study aligns with the research agenda questions
- The quality and rigor of the study design, including rationale, research questions, methods, anticipated deliverables, and potential implications
- The qualifications and experience of personnel
- The appropriateness of the budget in relation to the proposed project

At a minimum, successful applicants will provide the following deliverables to CCLD:

- A midterm report of research progress
- A final report detailing the study's rationale, methods, findings, and conclusions/implications
- A one-page summary of the study rationale, methods, findings, and conclusions/implications
- A financial statement showing how funds were expended

Please submit all application components electronically to:

Susan Cantrell, Ed.D.
Director of Research
Collaborative Center for Literacy Development
Susan.cantrell@uky.edu

If you have questions or would like to discuss your proposal prior to submission, please contact Susan Cantrell at susan.cantrell@uky.edu or 859-576-4714.

Notes:

1. Nothing in this announcement should be construed as to obligate the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development to make any awards. Awards are contingent upon the research needs and funding of the center.
2. CCLD encourages researchers to publish their work in academic journals. Any publications that result from the proposed work should include the following acknowledgement that funding support was provided by CCLD: *This research was supported in part by a grant from the Collaborative Center for Literacy Development (CCLD). The findings and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of CCLD.*