

USG Incubator RFP

The Incubator aims to support proof-of-concept and start-up projects aligned to the priorities of Complete College Georgia.

As early stage projects, this round of the USG incubator will focus on developing a portfolio of experimental work marked for completion in a six month to one year time frame. Support services including preliminary assessment and evaluation and strategy for scaling will be provided.

Awards will be made in two categories:

1 Proof-of-Concept or Start-Up

Funding: Estimated four awardees \$25K max each

Priority will be given to projects supporting one or more of these three broad subcategories, with examples.

New Models for Learning

- Use of new or existing MOOCs as supplemental instruction, support of hybrid classrooms, or other means to improve student success
- Competency based design and delivery
- Adaptation/use of open educational resources

Data-driven Student Engagement

- Faculty role in student engagement and progression
- New advising models and roles
- Learning analytics and associated interventions

Creating/Sustaining Partnerships

- K-12
- Industry
- Community/Nonprofit
- Other

2 Planning for Success in Gateway Courses

Funding: Estimated four awardees in the \$5K to \$7K range

Collaborative planning grants are designed to support faculty driven work around aligning curriculum and expectations with the new Common Core Georgia Performance Standards (CCGPS). Projects should identify a potential K-12 partner or resource that can be engaged in the work. Projects should involve the curriculum alignment of gateway math courses and/or gateway English courses. Projects are encouraged to include alignment activities in other academic discipline areas but all funded proposals will include one of the two previously mentioned areas.

Desired Alignment Outcomes

- Develop gap analysis of CCGPS and First Year Courses
- First-Year Course syllabus alignment with CCGPS
- Replicable model for faculty development around CCGPS

Allowable expenses include faculty release time, stipends, in-state travel, and engagement related expenses, in compliance with State, BOR, and institutional policies and procedures.

Proposal Details

Proposals should be short (no more than 5 pages max, formatted for readability) and self-contained with any illustrations, data, or appendices.

Recommended format:

Page 1

- Title
- Proposal project lead / contact person (Name, title, institution, e-mail, phone)
- Other team members (Name, title, institution, e-mail)
- Project category
- Overview of project (150 words or less)
- Impact on completion (150 words or less)
- Potential lessons to be learned (150 words or less)

Proposal Details (continued)

Pages 2 and 3 (Concept Description)

- Area of need and defined potential impact on completion
- Connection to the campus completion plan
- For Projects in Category 1: Theory of change and/or illustrated logic model
- For Projects in Category 2: Professional development model to be employed
- Potential for lessons learned and models for other institutions

Page 4 (Project Plan)

- Major project phases, activities and milestones with timeline
- Goals and objectives
 - Consideration should be made for showing initial results and/or lessons learned within 6 to 12 months from start of project. While our ultimate aim is to impact completion, only interim measures of success, quantitative and/or qualitative, are expected given the scope of projects.

Page 5 (Project Budget and Evaluation)

- Projected budget and brief justification
- Consideration of potential measures or data sources for evaluation
- Consideration for sustainability or work will inform other efforts once project is complete

[Note: Budgets will be supported by State funds and therefore institutions when planning and spending project money must ensure compliance with State, BOR and institutional policies and procedures.]

Proposals will be evaluated on the following factors:

- Well articulated theory of change and potential high impact on completion
- Strong alignment to campus completion plan priorities (whether new or existing) and areas of need
- Likelihood the effort, at current or future scale, will contribute to an increase in completion throughout the system through lessons learned or adaptation
- Evidence of faculty engagement and leadership
- Feasible and reasonable action plan and budget

Proposals emailed to: Jennifer Rippner, Institute of Higher Education, University of Georgia at jrippner@uga.edu.

Submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT, Monday April 8, 2013.

Follow up questions or interviews may be requested of applicants.

An announcement of grantees is expected no later than April 22, 2013.

Awardees will be required to submit a simple contractual timeline tied to deliverables with the original or modified proposal serving as the statement of work. Please note that awardees' successful applications will be made available to all USG institutions. The USG may also request that applicants with promising proposals that were not funded share their ideas with the USG community.

FAQS

Which institutions are eligible?

All USG institutions or USG institutional teams are eligible and projects will be selected according to the same criteria.

May an institution submit more than one application?

An institution may submit up to three applications, one for the smaller planning projects and two for the larger projects. However, it is highly unlikely that an institution would receive more than one award overall given a total of only 8 estimated awards available.

Matching?

Institutions are not expected to provide financial or in-kind support or matching for these contracted funds.

Overhead costs?

Institutions are encouraged to maximize use of these small, focused funds. While a flat overhead rate is not appropriate for Incubator projects, in special cases itemized administrative expenses may be appropriate.

Complete
College
Georgia

