

CALL FOR PAPERS

TIAA-CREF INSTITUTE 2008 GRANT PROGRAM

The TIAA-CREF Institute Grant Program supports cutting-edge research projects relevant to the business of higher education and retirement financial security. As noted below, we have a strong interest in certain research topics but encourage proposals relevant to either of our research themes.

RESEARCH THEMES:

The Business of Higher Education: We have a strong interest in the following topic areas:

1. Endowment Management – Best practices and public policy
2. Retirement Incentive Programs – Transitioning faculty to and through retirement
3. Helping Families Finance Higher Education – strategies and tools for helping qualified students attend college
4. Global Competition and Opportunities in Higher Education – perspectives on the education marketplace of tomorrow.

Retirement Financial Security: We have a strong interest in the following topic areas:

1. Retiree Health Insurance – Best practices and product design innovations.
2. Retirement Plan and Investment Menu Design – Best practices and institutional strategies for helping households manage retirement funding and investment risks.
3. Retirement Income Distribution Strategies – Products, techniques, and advice for managing longevity, inflation, and investment risks.
4. Life Cycle Planning – the role of financial education and advice in managing retirement risks.

GRANTS:

Grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$30,000 are available.

TIAA-CREF INSTITUTE RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

An Invitation to TIAA-CREF Institute Fellows to Submit Proposals

The mission of the TIAA-CREF Institute is to foster and conduct objective research, build knowledge, demonstrate and support thought leadership, and enhance understanding of strategic issues that impact higher education and lifelong financial security.

The TIAA-CREF Institute Research Grant Program provides financial support for applied research related to the Institute's fields of study:

- Pension and retirement issues
- Retiree health insurance
- Higher education challenges and trends
- Individual savings strategies

Supported projects are generally expected to be completed within one year of the date of the grant. Multi-year timetables will be considered, but first consideration is given to well-conceived, well-designed, specific projects that can realistically be accomplished in one year or less.

Each year, the TIAA-CREF Institute has two funding cycles for grant applications. One cycle is open only to current TIAA-CREF Institute Fellows as a benefit for participating in the Fellows Program. The other grant cycle is open to all qualified researchers.

To be considered for funding in the Spring 2008 grants program, please submit your application by Friday, **May 20, 2008**. The Institute expects to make announcements of awards by June 1, 2008.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Grantees are expected to complete a draft research paper within one year of receiving a grant. The primary research paper should be suitable for publication as a TIAA-CREF Institute Research Dialogue. Grantees are encouraged to submit the research for peer-reviewed publication as long as the published paper acknowledges the support provided by the TIAA-CREF Institute, and, when possible, the authors are also identified as a TIAA-CREF Institute Fellow in addition to their primary institutional affiliation.

In addition, grantees are required to provide the TIAA-CREF Institute with an abbreviated, non-technical report outlining the intuition and main findings of the research project. This report should be 4,000 to 5,000 words in length, including an one to two page executive summary. The report should be suitable for publication as a TIAA-CREF Institute publication.

Finally, as a condition of the grant award, the principle investigator agrees to make one oral presentation of the research results as may be requested by the TIAA-CREF Institute. Funding for any travel necessary as a result would be provided by the TIAA-CREF Institute.

FUNDING LEVELS AND BUDGET

Priority is given to proposals with overall budgets of less than \$30,000. The grant program supports only the direct costs of research and does not fund overhead or indirect costs.

Proposals are expected to include a detailed and complete budget, separately itemizing costs for at least the following expenses:

- 1) Personnel, including salary and benefits for the principal investigator and any co-investigators or research assistants (each separately itemized)
- 2) Travel for research-related purposes
- 3) Equipment, materials, and other expenses, including the itemized costs, if any, of obtaining data, postage or printing.

FORMAT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals should include the following items:

- 1) A completed copy of the enclosed grant application form
- 2) A detailed budget, including the items described above
- 3) Complete resumes/CVs of the primary investigator(s)
- 4) A detailed timeline describing the anticipated progress of the research and the expected dates of fulfillment of each of the grant program requirements
- 5) A narrative 3-5 page description of the project that includes the following section headings:

- a. Project motivation
- b. Project goals
- c. Research plan
 - i. Analytical framework
 - ii. Data sources (if any)
 - iii. Sensitivity analysis
- d. Potential practical implications or conclusions
- e. List of references cited in the proposal

HOW TO APPLY

To request funding through the TIAA-CREF Institute Research Fellows Grant Program, please submit by mail or email a complete proposal, which includes all the items listed above. Mail or email the proposal to:

David P. Richardson, Ph.D.
Principal Research Fellow
TIAA-CREF Institute
8625 Andrew Carnegie Blvd.
SSC E5/N5
Charlotte, NC 28262.
Phone: (704) 988-6229
dprichardson@tiaa-cref.org

EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

The proposals will be reviewed for scholarly merit, emphasis on the stated priority areas shown in the grants announcement, and importance to understanding issues of lifelong financial security of the higher education community. The following criteria will be used in the evaluation of all applications.

- 1) Clarity of purpose, sophistication, and appropriateness of the research design and proposed research techniques
- 2) Unique nature of the research question(s), methodology, and/or approach
- 3) Potential practical/policy implication of the research
- 4) Qualifications of the applicant(s)
- 5) Cost effectiveness
- 6) Schedule for deliverables

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions concerning the TIAA-CREF Institute Research Fellows Grant Program, please contact Dr. David Richardson at dprichardson@tiaa-cref.org or (704) 988-6229.

2007 TIAA-CREF Institute Research Fellows Grant Application

Proposal Title _____

Requested Grant Amount _____

Expected Completion Date _____

Researchers

Name _____

Current Institutional Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Name _____

Current Institutional Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Name _____

Current Institutional Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Name _____

Current Institutional Affiliation _____

Address _____

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