

Professional development funding refers to financial resources provided by a college, university, or academic department to support the continuous growth, learning, and scholarly advancement of its tenure-track and tenured faculty members. The purpose of such funding is to:

- Enhance faculty expertise and skill sets
- Promote research, scholarship, and creative activities
- Encourage engagement with academic and professional communities
- Support activities that contribute to teaching effectiveness and curriculum innovation
- Strengthen institutional reputation through faculty accomplishments

Professional development funding typically covers activities in the following broad categories:

1. Research and Scholarly Development

- Conducting research, including fieldwork or archival visits (includes research materials)
- Purchasing specialized software or datasets needed for research
- Travel and accommodations for research collaboration
- Student assistants

2. Conference Participation and Presentations

- Registration fees for academic or professional conferences
- Travel expenses (transportation, lodging, per diem) for conference attendance
- Poster printing or other presentation-related materials
- Costs for virtual conference access.

3. Teaching Enhancement

- Attending pedagogy workshops or seminars
- Enrolling in training for new teaching technologies or learning platforms
- Acquiring instructional materials that enhance teaching methods
- Participating in course redesign initiatives (e.g., inclusive teaching or online course development)
- Books

4. Professional Memberships and Subscriptions

- Membership dues for academic or professional organizations
- Subscriptions to academic journals or databases not provided by the institution

Non-Acceptable Expenses:

1. Hardware: computers, iPads, tablets, printers, etc.
2. Personal expenses/unrelated travel
3. Office remodels
4. Expense/items already covered by institutional services
5. Monitor Extension