

TIEF Internationalization Grant (range \$10,000 - \$20,000)

The TIEF Internationalization Grant will award projects that advance our member universities' internationalization capacity. Applications which focus on the following themes will be given priority, but other proposals are welcomed:

- Integrating global learning into the curriculum and co-curriculum.
- Tangibly fostering a vibrant and inclusive culture for domestic and international students, staff, and faculty.
- International partnerships which bring measurable outcomes or benefit to students, programs, or the university.

Applications which bring internationalization efforts to campus, which have positive impacts on underrepresented students and/or fields of study; or which reach a substantial number of students, faculty, or staff, and those which have clear timelines and outcomes are likely to be rated more highly.

Successful proposals will include the following:

- *Strategic alignment:* alignment with the university or college's overall internationalization goals and grant priorities.
- *UN SDG Alignment:* a strong connection to two or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- *Approach:* effectiveness of plan to achieve desired outcomes; scalability and sustainability of the initiative.
- *Scale of impact:* number of community and stakeholder beneficiaries and impact over time.
- *Innovation:* applying funds toward groundbreaking, unique, and otherwise outside-the-box ideas, partnerships and collaborations; advancing internationalization in emerging fields of study.
- *Impactful use of funds:* measurable and scalable outcomes and/or direct tangible impacts from funds expended; efficient use of funds.

Applications which primarily benefit a single person, or which are not sustainable or scalable are discouraged. Any funds proposed to be directed to individual students or faculty in the form of stipends, offsets, travel grants, honoraria, overtime, etc., must be transparently described in the application.

The application deadline for this grant is **May 31st, 2026**.

TIEC reserves the right to deny items in the budget that they deem as an improper use of funds.

Eligibility:

- All TIEC member institution faculty and staff are eligible to apply.
- Only one award per institution (if multiple proposals submitted by one institution)
- Please only submit one application per faculty member, including applications in other grant categories. If one faculty member submits applications for multiple grants (ie, a Study Abroad Grant and Internationalization Grant), only one application will be considered at the discretion of TIEC and the 2025 Grant Review Committee.

Evaluation:

- *Relevance:* Proposals should be relevant to your university's internationalization strategy and address strategic priorities within your institution.
- *Feasibility:* Proposals must demonstrate the feasibility of the program/project during the grant period.
- *Sustainability:* Proposals must demonstrate a plan for the scope and impact of the programs/projects beyond the grant period.
- *UN SDG Alignment:* Proposals must include a strong connection to two or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- *Financial:* Proposals must provide a detailed budget of the funding requested.
Direct and/or in-kind cost sharing is strongly encouraged. A line-item budget and justification must be submitted as part of the proposal.

Requirements of Award:

- Recipient acknowledges that TIEC is awarding Internationalization funding through TIEF in order to spur increased sustained international practice across Texas higher education. Our goal is to increase international opportunities for students, and we see this as an effective means to that end. As such, as an awardee, the recipient commits to using all best efforts to implement their proposed internationalization program - or a version of it - for a minimum of three years after the expiration of the award period.
- Within 60 days of acceptance, recipient will provide TIEC with a timeline of activities and outcomes planned for the grant-funded program. Upon receipt of the timeline, TIEC will release the funds.
- No later than December 12, 2026, recipient will provide TIEC with a progress report describing milestones achieved based on their original proposal and timeline of activities. Progress reports shall be submitted via an online form provided prior to the deadline.
- No later than August 31, 2027, recipient will provide a final report (up to four pages) of project outcomes. Final reports shall be submitted via an online form provided prior to the deadline.
- If this timeline does not line up with current program goals, please email eryn.quinn@tiec.org to work out an alternative schedule.
- Recipient is expected to continue their program outside the grant period and commit to communicating with TIEC about the ongoing success of their initiatives. TIEC reserves the right to amplify recipient's successes and outcomes through its communications channels.

- Recipient's headshot, bio, and project summary will be featured on the TIEC website.
- TIEC believes in creating space for members to share achievements and best practices from their programs among their peers. As such, recipient agrees to present their programs and outcomes at a TIEC conference, a TIEC-organized webinar, Operating Council meeting, or other suitable forum, should the opportunity arise.
- TIEC intends to promote the recipient's program and their status as a TIEF award winner. TIEC reserves the right to share photos, updates, announcements, and other posts regarding their program on social media, the TIEC website, TIEC newsletters, and through email communication. Where possible, TIEC will seek opportunities to present TIEF programs across the global higher education community.
- If for any reason this project is unable to be completed, the recipient agrees to return the funds to TIEC in full. In this case, please reach out to eryn.quinn@tiec.org for next steps.
- Selected institutions will decide whether they will accept funds as a direct donation, grant, or gift. No indirect costs may be taken from any TIEF grant.

Application:

Identification

1. Name of University:
2. First Name:
3. Last Name:
4. University Email:
5. Title:
6. College/Unit:
7. Department/Unit:
8. Please Upload a Brief CV (2-3 pages Word or PDF):

Overview of the Proposed Project

9. Project Title
10. Project Partners (please list all partners names, titles, departments/units, and emails)
11. Please describe the project and explain how this proposed project is relevant to your university's internationalization agenda. How will this proposed project greatly improve your efforts and drive growth? (500 words max)
12. Please explain your plans for implementation and describe the feasibility of the program/project during the grant period. (250 words max)
13. Please describe the scope and impact of the programs/projects beyond the grant period. (250 words max)

Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals (300 words max)

At TIEC, we challenge ourselves to always consider the purpose of our activities and the beneficiaries of them. To that end, we ground ourselves in the UN Sustainable Development Goals and aim to contribute to solving these global challenges through our international education activities. The Sustainable Development Goals provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for all countries and go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth, which fits perfectly with TIEC mission to increase internationalization of higher education. Which of the UN Sustainable Development Goals does your proposal support? How?

The details of UNSDG can be found here. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

Budget and Budget Narrative

Please upload a budget document containing specific line items that demonstrate how the grant funds will be used.

Provide a budget narrative explaining why the grant will be instrumental in helping you develop the proposed project. (300 words max)

Letter(s) of Support from Department(s)

Please upload letters of support from each leadership unit involved with the submission.

Thank you for your application! Your application will be sent to your Senior International Officer (or designated representative of international programs for the institution) for review. We will update you on the status of your application in the coming weeks.

TIEF Internationalization Grant Evaluation Rubric

The following rubric is intended to provide a continuum of ratings that will guide the evaluation of TIEF Grant proposals. The rubric is intended as a guide for the assignment of a composite rating to each proposal on a scale of 1 - 5.

Relevance:

5 - Compelling and convincing articulation of how the proposed project clearly connects to the university's strategic internationalization goals. There is a clear description on how the proposed project will greatly improve their internationalization efforts and drive growth. The project goals are realistic and focused.

4 - Strong articulation of the proposed project with a clear connection to the university's strategic internationalization goals. The proposal demonstrates meaningful potential to enhance internationalization efforts, though some aspects could be more fully developed or detailed. Goals are mostly realistic and well-defined.

3- Acceptable articulation of the proposed project. The proposed project is lacking details on how it connects to the university's strategic internationalization goals. The description does not clearly state how the proposed project will greatly improve their internationalization efforts and drive growth.

2 - Weak articulation of the proposed project. The connection to the university's strategic internationalization goals is minimal or vague. The proposal provides limited explanation of how the project would support internationalization efforts, and the goals may be incomplete, unfocused, or only partially realistic.

1 – Poor articulation of the proposed project. There are no details on how the project connects to their university's internationalization agenda. Goals aren't well defined or aren't realistic.

Feasibility:

5 – The plan for implementation is clearly described, innovative, and well thought out. The implementation plan includes a schedule and accounts for the bureaucratic process within their university. The project is focused, reasonable and is likely to be completed within the projected timeline.

4 - The plan for implementation is strong and mostly well developed. It includes a clear structure and demonstrates awareness of the university's processes, though some elements could be more detailed or fully articulated. The project appears feasible and likely to stay on track.

3 – The plan for implementation is clearly described but lacks details on timeline or doesn't account for the university's specific bureaucracy.

2 - The plan for implementation is weak or incomplete. Key components are underdeveloped. Feasibility is uncertain, and the likelihood of completing the project within the proposed timeframe is questionable.

1 – The plan for implementation is poorly explained and not well thought out. Key components are underdeveloped or missing entirely. Completion of the proposed project is highly unlikely.

Scope and Impact:

5 – The scope and impact of the project is clearly described. The project will make a significant contribution to the university’s internationalization goals. There is a compelling articulation of how the project will continue beyond the grant period.

4 - The scope of the project is well described and the anticipated impact is generally clear. The proposal shows meaningful potential to advance the university’s internationalization goals, though the explanation of long-term sustainability or continued impact could be more fully developed.

3 – The scope of the project is clearly described but the description of the impact is not compelling or lacks details. Lacks explanation about the project’s sustainability beyond the grant period.

2 - The scope of the project is only partially described, and the expected impact is vague or minimally addressed. The proposal provides little insight into how the project supports internationalization goals or how it might continue after the grant period.

1 – Poor explanation of the scope and impact of the project. Components are poorly explained or missing entirely.

Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals:

5 - Aligns completely with one or more of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

4 - Demonstrates a strong and clear alignment with at least one UN Sustainable Development Goal. The connection is well articulated, though not as comprehensive or fully integrated as a top-level proposal.

3 - Partially aligns with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

2 - Shows minimal or vague alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Any connection is weak, indirect, or insufficiently explained.

1 - Does not align with any of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

Use of Funds:

5 – The budget narrative clearly connects the use of funds with the goals of the project. The budget narrative explains how all of the funds from the grant will be used to improve their university’s internationalization efforts.

4 - The budget narrative is strong and mostly well detailed. Most line items are clearly connected to the project’s goals, though a few areas could benefit from additional explanation or clearer justification. Overall, the proposed use of funds appears appropriate and aligned with internationalization objectives.

3 – The budget narrative is clear but is lacking details on how all the line items connect with the goals of the project.

2 - The budget narrative provides limited detail. Several line items are unclear, insufficiently justified, or only loosely connected to the project’s goals. The explanation raises questions about whether funds will be used effectively.

1 –The budget narrative is poorly written and does not contain details on how funds will be utilized.