



MATHEMATICS EDUCATION TRUST
Pre-K–8 Preservice Teacher Action
Research Grants

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this grant is to provide financial support for action research conducted as a collaborative by university faculty, preservice teacher(s), and classroom teacher(s) seeking to improve their understanding of mathematics in Pre-K-8 classroom(s).

SUPPORTED BY: Ernest Duncan Fund and NCTM

GRADES: PK–5, 6–8

GRANT AMOUNT: Maximum of \$3,000 each will be awarded

DEADLINE: May 1

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- The primary applicant may be either a teacher in the Pre-K-8 classroom, a mathematics coach assigned to work with the classroom(s) where the research will be conducted, or a university mathematics educator.
- The participating preservice teacher(s) must be in an initial licensure/certification program at the undergraduate level and, at some point during the term of the grant, must be engaged in some form of practicum experience or student teaching.
- Past recipients of this grant are not eligible to re-apply.
- No person(s) may receive more than one award administered by the Mathematics Education Trust in the same academic year.

INDIVIDUAL AWARD OR ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD: Individual

Note: The award must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service, and it is subject to federal income taxes. A Form 1099 will be sent to the grant recipient at the end of the calendar year.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT:

- The primary applicant must be a current (on or before the application deadline) Essential or Premium member of NCTM.

GENERAL PROPOSAL INFORMATION:

- Primary emphasis will be placed on collaboration by a team of researchers consisting of university, elementary/middle school teachers, and preservice teachers from the undergraduate ranks.
- The action research should be designed, implemented, and completed with a focus on enhancing the teaching and/or learning of mathematics in Grades Pre-K-8.
- Proposals must address the following: rationale for the research project, the expected impact on teaching/learning in the school setting, and anticipated improvements in preservice student learning.

AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Grant funds should be used to support project expenses to plan and carry out the action research.
- Project activities are to be completed between June 1 and May 31.

PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

I. Proposal (Five pages maximum)

A. Plan

- Describe the design of the action research, including sources of information about teaching and/or learning and methodology to be used to collect the information.
- Must be a collaboration by a university faculty, preservice teacher(s), and classroom teacher(s).
- Must provide a rationale for the research project, including its relevance to the teaching/learning of mathematics in Grades PreK-8.
- Provide a timeline for the project with details for actions.
- Description of the demographics of the school where the research is to be conducted.
- Indicate the number of preservice teachers involved and their current class level.

B. Outcome

- Identify the project's expected impact on the university, preservice teachers and classroom teachers.
- Describe how completing the proposed action research will help inform the university, the school district, and the preservice teacher(s) to improve teaching and impact students' learning.
- Include criteria for an assessment component to measure outcomes of the project.

II. Budget (Two pages maximum; table format)

- No indirect costs.
- Include an itemized budget, presented in line-item table format.
- Be specific and justify line items. (Funds may be used to support project expenses to plan and carry out the action research, for example, books, supplies, and other expenses related to achieving the goals of the project.)
- If the total budget for a proposed project is greater than the grant maximum, indicate clearly what the grant funds will cover and what additional funding sources might be available to complete the total budget.

III. Background and Experience

- One-page maximum, outline format preferred.
- One for each applicant.
- Formal education: institution, type of degree, major, minor, and date each degree was granted.
- Teaching experience related to this proposal. Indicate the school(s), teaching assignments, and other pertinent information, including continuing education and professional activities.
- Provide a generalized "snapshot" of all other anticipated participants. Indicate the relevant teaching experience, teaching assignments, and other pertinent information.

AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

IV. Letter of Support from Principal

- One-page maximum.
- Must be on official school stationery and signed by the principal.
- Indicate strong support for the proposal and willingness to host action research.

FINAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS:

- Awardees will be required to submit a brief report (two to three double-spaced pages) and an itemized report of expenses (with receipts).
- Submit a draft of an article about the action research findings to be submitted for publication and the name of the place(s) submitted such as Mathematics Teacher Educator, the Journal for Research in Mathematics Education, or Mathematics Teacher: Learning and Teaching PK-12.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- Two-thirds of the approved budget, not to exceed \$2,000, will be paid at the beginning of the project; the remainder will be paid on receipt of a final report and verified expenses (with receipts) related to the proposal.