



MATHEMATICS EDUCATION TRUST
Action Research on Mathematics
Teaching Practices Grant

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 teaching of mathematics in PK-12 classroom(s).

SUPPORTED BY: Ernest Duncan Fund and NCTM

GRADES: PK–5, 6–8, 9–12

GRANT AMOUNT: Maximum of \$6,000 each

DEADLINE: May 1

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- The primary applicant may be either a teacher in the PK-12 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: Organizational

For the purposes of MET grants, an organization is defined to be a school, school district, university, or non-profit mathematics education organization. The applicant will need to indicate an organization to administer the finances of the grant when applying for the grant.

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, classroom teachers, and preservice teachers from the undergraduate ranks.
- The action research should be designed, implemented, and completed with a focus on enhancing the teaching of mathematics in Grades PK-12.

AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Proposals must address the following: rationale for the research project, the expected impact on teaching in the school setting, and anticipated improvements in preservice student learning.
- This research should lead to a draft article suitable for submission in the *Mathematics Teacher Educator*, *Journal for Research in Mathematics Education* or *Mathematics Teacher: Learning and Teaching PK-12*.
- Grant funds should be used to support project expenses to plan and carry out the action research.
- Project activities are to be completed between August 1 and July 31 of the upcoming school year.

PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

Use the components below to outline your proposal. See rubric for additional information.

I. Proposal (Five pages maximum) (single-space, 12 font, 1 inch margin)

A. Plan

The Proposal must be a collaboration by university faculty, preservice teacher(s) and classroom teacher(s) that:

- Describes the goals, activities, and design of the action research, including sources of information about teaching practice, methodology to be used to collect the information, and the roles of the team members.
- Provides a rationale for the research project, including its relevance to the teaching of mathematics in Grades PK-12.
- Includes a clear and achievable timeline for the project.
- Describes the demographics of the school where the research is to be conducted.
- Indicates the number of preservice teachers involved and their current class level.

B. Outcomes

- Identify the project's expected impact on the university, preservice teachers and classroom teachers.
- Describe the expected impact on student learning.
- Include criteria for an assessment component to measure outcomes of the project.

II. Budget (Two pages maximum; table format)

- No indirect costs are permitted.
- 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

Provide a one-page maximum vita, outline format preferred, for the primary applicant that includes:

- Formal education: institution, type of degree, major, minor, and date each degree was granted.
- Professional experience related to this proposal. Indicate the school(s), teaching assignments, and other pertinent information, including continuing education and professional activities.
- An overview of all other anticipated participants. Indicate the relevant professional experience, teaching assignments, and other pertinent information.

AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

IV. Letter of Support from Principal

Include a one-page maximum letter that:

- Is on official school letterhead and signed by the principal.
- Confirms the employment status of the applicant(s).
- Indicates strong support for the proposal and willingness to host action research.

V. Letter of Support from Higher Education Institution

- One-page maximum.
- Must be on official school letterhead and signed.
- Indicates strong support for the collaborative commitment of the university personnel and the potential success of the project.

FINAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS:

- By the end of July of the grant year, awardees will be required to submit a brief report (two single-spaced pages) and an itemized report of expenses (with receipts).
- During the subsequent school year, awardees will be required to 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.

AWARD AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- Award notification will be made by early July.
- Two-thirds of the approved budget, not to exceed \$4,000, will be paid in early August; the remainder will be paid on receipt of a final report and verified expenses (with receipts) related to the proposal.