

Fall 2026 TU Career Communities Micro-Grant Initiative Faculty & Staff Application Overview

TIMELINE

August 10 – Initial call for Academic Year 2026-2027 submissions

- Submitting a grant proposal form does not guarantee funding. Funding is approved based on staff committee review decisions.
- In addition to the online application, applicants will need to upload a proposed detailed budget form using the template provided. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

August 21, 11 am – 12 pm - Micro-Grant Virtual Info Session

- Zoom registration link: <https://towson-edu.zoom.us/j/84456789012>
- Session will be recorded and sent to all registrants

September 30 – Fall Deadline + Spring Priority Deadline

- Applications will be reviewed in the order in which they are received.
- Proposals should clearly promote career-ready skills development and advance Career Communities' strategic priorities.
- Proposals will be accepted and awarded on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted or until the application closing date of **December 1 for Spring semester**.

August 10 – December 1 – Application Period

- Individuals who submit complete applications will be notified of the receipt of their submission. Career Center staff committee members will review proposals during this two-week block.
- Upon notification of approval, grant award recipients must immediately schedule a pre-award meeting (virtual or in person) with appointed Career Center liaisons to review grant acceptance requirements, pre- and post-award checklists and coordinate details of the funding disbursement process.

BACKGROUND

The Career Center provides fiscal support for TU faculty and staff led program activities that demonstrate innovation, collaboration, and promotion of the center's Career Communities network while emphasizing the critical importance of Career Ready Skills.

Mission

The TU Career Center leads a collaborative career-readiness ecosystem that enables transformational connections, experiences & learning for TU Tigers.

Vision

Every TU Tiger is empowered to confidently navigate their career journey.

Guiding Principles

Maximum Reach & Impact | Data-driven | Relationship-centered Approach |
Student Empowerment | Practice Care & Belonging

Strategic Priorities of TU Career Communities

Fall 2026 TU Career Communities Micro-Grant Initiative Faculty & Staff Application Overview

All TU Tigers will:

1. Explore career options and design a plan for their career mobility
2. Engage in hands-on activities that complement desired career path
3. Gain skills needed to accomplish the work they will do in their initial chosen career path
4. Build relationships with alumni/employers/community who work in fields of interest, provide advice & opportunities
5. Know how to articulate their skills and launch an effective job/internship search campaign in their career domain

Eligibility

Faculty and staff members that are committed to intentionally strengthening TU Career Communities and advancing the Career Center's collective mission, vision, and guiding principles are welcome to apply.

- Grant activities must spotlight one or two essential Career Ready Skills.
- Proposals should clearly align with the Career Communities strategic priorities that focus on knowledge, experiential learning, and career connections.

Grant Requirements

Award recipients must agree and will be required to:

- Communicate in all marketing and reporting materials and at the program site: *"This Career Communities Initiative is made possible by the support of the TU Career Center"*
- Share grant program photos and related media posts
- Track and submit program attendance details, including participant names and TU ID numbers
- Utilize and complete TU Career Center Capture Sheet for Progress Reflection and Post-Program Insights
- Submit final summary report materials no later than 3 weeks after completion of the funded program activity.
 - The final report must include a discussion highlighting the specific career ready skills of the program, career learning outcomes, and career communities' impact of the grant.
 - The format and delivery date of the report will be decided during the pre-award meeting and specified on the post-award checklist.

Maximum Award: \$500

- Funding requests ranging from \$100 to \$500 are welcome.
- Partial funding for grant activities will also be considered by the review committee.