

# ILLUMINATE Grants for the Improvement of Teaching Information Sheet

<http://tinyurl.com/ILLUMINATEGrant>

**DESCRIPTION:** The **ILLUMINATE Grants for the Improvement of Teaching** are designed to encourage faculty to reflect on teaching practices and develop plans to enhance instruction through the introduction of new pedagogical and **active learning\*** techniques, activities, class trips, and/or learner-centered experiences.

**FUNDING:** Individuals up to \$1,500; Two-person teams up to \$3,000; Three-person teams up to \$4,500.

**ELIGIBILITY:** All full-time and part-time residential faculty, as well as online faculty teaching on-campus intensives, are invited to apply. Individual faculty members and departmental/interdisciplinary teams of two or three are eligible (teams must designate one primary author); however each applicant must be a qualified faculty member actively involved in the project with real duties, rather than merely supportive of the project, in order to be eligible for grant funding. Preference is given to applicants who have never been awarded an **ILLUMINATE Grant**. All grant awardees (including each member of a team) must sit out one grant cycle before applying, again.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Fall/Spring Implementations:** March 31

**APPLICATION:** Faculty members may be listed as part of only one application per award cycle. Applications must include (a) grant title; (b) role of applicant and any other team members; (c) description of proposed project with outcomes; (d) budget and implementation timeline; (e) number of students affected; (f) anticipated impact on teaching practices; (g) evidence of **active learning\***/student engagement; and (h) plan for assessing success. Awardees will showcase the project during an **ILLUMINATE Implementation** visit by a CTE staff member.

**SELECTION EVALUATION PROCESS:** Awards are selected by the Grants Committee of the CTE Faculty Advisory Board and approved by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost. Proposals are evaluated by:

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| • Quality of application                        | • <b>Active learning*</b> /student engagement |
| • Clarity of purpose and explanation of project | • Originality of project                      |
| • Potential to impact teaching practices        | • Return on investment                        |
| • Promotion of higher-order thinking skills     | • Plan to assess                              |

**TERMS OF AWARD:** Durable goods remain the property of the University and are able to be used by the recipient(s) as long as required. Awardees and their respective budget manager must attend a recipient training session. All expenditures must be handled according to University and grant policies, including the terms of the award letter. Courses affected by the grant must be offered during the academic year (not during summer). No funds may be spent after April 15. Unused funds must be returned to CTE. The Primary Author will submit a final report by April 30.

## EXPENSES:

### Eligible Expenses

- Materials “used up” (consumables)
- Special materials not covered by a lab fee
- Durable goods (e.g., books, DVDs)
- Honoraria for outside speakers/guest artists with strong student interaction/follow-up
- Tickets and fees for student activities

### Ineligible Expenses

- Equipment, materials, technology, or services already available on campus or that could be provided by departments
- Internal stipends/honoraria (LU faculty/students)
- Conference attendance
- Hospitality or food costs

**\*ACTIVE LEARNING:** In order to learn, students must do more than just listen: They must read, write, discuss, or be engaged in solving problems. In particular, students must engage in such higher-order thinking tasks as research, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Active learning engages students in two aspects – doing things and thinking about the things they are doing.