

Grant Award Procedures

Education Research & Program Evaluation Studies

The Washington Educational Research Association (WERA) sponsors competitive grants (maximum award of \$5,000) for studies of educational issues. Studies lasting up to 18 months may be proposed. The purpose of the awards is to support studies that focus on instructional improvement, classroom assessment, educational measurement at both the district and state level, and the evaluation of education programs. Research and evaluation proposals focusing on issues associated with school reform that include partnerships with school districts are particularly encouraged. Applicants must be a current WERA member and preference will be given to applicants who have not received a previous WERA grant. Continuation of previous WERA grants will not be funded.

Grant application deadline: February 6, 2017 Applications must be received by the grant Chair no later than 5:00pm PST. Electronic submission of applications is required through an email attachment to the Chair. Such emails must bear a “sent date” of no later than February 6, 2017. Applications may also be mailed or faxed, but an electronic email attachment copy is still required. Acknowledgment of electronic submission will be sent to the primary contact. If there are materials in the application which cannot be sent electronically or if electronic submission is not possible, mailed, faxed, or hand carried materials must be delivered to the Chair of the Research Grant Committee by 4:00 p.m. on February 16. Do not send materials for which acknowledgement has already been received. Receipt of all applications will be acknowledged as soon as possible by the Chair.

Applications should be sent or delivered to:

Jack Monpas-Huber, Grant Committee Chair
c/o WERA
P O Box 15822
Seattle, WA 98115
E-mail: weraoffice@gmail.com

Grant award announcement: Grant awards will be announced via e-mail and in the Standard Deviation.

Application Format

Proposals must include a separate cover page and three additional sections as follows.

Cover page:

- name, address, telephone number, and e-mail addresses of investigator(s);

- title of study and an abstract that provides an overview of the project, its purpose, procedures, expected outcomes, cost, and limitations.

Rationale:

- education area to be investigated;
- basic intent or reason for undertaking the study;
- discussion/statement of the problem/issues;
- research hypothesis or questions to be answered; and
- potential value of the findings.

Study plan or approach:

- population to be studied, target sample, sample size, and sampling procedures;
- data analysis methods, responsibility and resources for conducting analysis;
- description of final product; and
- study timeline including completion of final report.

Budget: (Include categories as appropriate and in sufficient detail to allow reviewers to see relationship between the proposed activities and the budget expenditures. See limitations on funded items below.)

- contractual services (include brief description)
- telephone
- clerical services (include brief description), printing
- travel to conduct research
- other (include brief description)
- postage
- total budget

The intent of the grants is to fund the actual and direct staff time and materials specific to design, conduct, and analysis of the research project. WERA will not fund expenses which accrue to the researcher, members of the research team or subjects, or the researcher's institution. Therefore, in general, WERA research grants will not be granted for the following:

- Items that become the personal possessions of the researcher or research institution, e.g., software or hardware, subscriptions, professional library materials, or research equipment;
- Costs related to publishing the research;
- The cost of tuition or training fees, even if it is relevant to the project; or
- Travel to present the research, although travel related to collection of data may be funded.

Proposal Evaluations:

Each proposal will be considered by a committee of WERA members who will consider the relevance, worthiness, feasibility, and workability, as well as the likelihood that that research will result in valid and reliable findings. A representative of the committee may contact the researcher and request more information or make suggestions which would make the grant more likely to meet WERA guidelines. The recommendations of the committee will be submitted to the WERA Board whose decision is final.

Expectations:

Successful applicants will be expected to give assurance that:

- the project will be completed as proposed;
- grant monies will be expended as outlined;
- an appropriate final report will be submitted; and
- following the acceptance of the final report by the WERA Board, the investigator(s) will present the findings from the study at a subsequent WERA Conference.