2019 Pathways Grant Proposal

**Background:**

In April 2015, Virginia Tech approved Pathways, a new general education curriculum that guides students in integrating ways of knowing across disciplinary traditions and articulates learning outcomes relevant for the 21st century. Students will be able to complete their general education program through a distribution of courses, an interdisciplinary Pathway minor, or an innovative alternative Pathway. Ethical reasoning and global and cultural awareness is integrated across the curriculum. The arts, design thinking, computational thinking, and national issues of identity and equity are emphasized, with an opportunity for more advanced learning especially in discourse and quantitative reasoning. In support and recognition of the scope of these curricular changes, the Provost’s Office has committed additional base funding to support the transition to Pathways. This Request for Proposals describes the grant process that will be used to invest these new resources strategically to ensure that students have access to innovative and experiential learning across the Pathways curriculum.

**Goals of the 2019 Pathways Grant Program:**  
1. To support the development and delivery of courses in areas of need: advanced/applied quantitative and computational reasoning, arts, design thinking, advanced/applied discourse, and identity/equity in the United States.  
2. To scale up best practices in general education to reach a greater number of students.  
3. To support the incorporation of engaging pedagogies and informative assessment strategies across the Pathways curriculum.  
4. To increase the incorporation of high-impact practices such as undergraduate research, project-based learning, education abroad, and service learning (Kuh, 2008) in Pathways courses and minors.  
5. To support the development and delivery of Pathways Minors, particularly those that span multiple colleges.

Pathways Grants will support the work of an individual or a team of faculty members in designing or redesigning courses, minors, or alternative pathways. Pathways Grants for an individual will be awarded at a maximum of $10,000. Pathways Grants for minors will be awarded a maximum of $30,000. However, multiple courses must be included in this level of work and must be offered across AT LEAST two different colleges. Priority will be given to work that aligns with outcomes of greatest need to this point (see goal 4 above).

At the completion of a Pathways project, the funding streams supporting continuation of the course, minor, or alternative pathway will be reviewed by the Provost’s Office and the participating departments and colleges. These sources include existing base support for instruction, annual enrollment support funding for Pathways, and new budget requests from the college that align with the Pathways initiative.

Please email Stephen Biscotte at [biscotsm@vt.edu](mailto:biscotsm@vt.edu) with any questions.

Developer Information

In this section, you will provide developer contact and grant information.

Primary Applicant Full Name \*

Primary Applicant Title \*

Primary Applicant College \*

Primary Applicant Department \*

Primary Applicant Phone Number \*

Primary Applicant Email \*

(If applicable) Full names of any others involved in work

What is the focus of this work? Chose One\*

* Pathways Course(s)
* Pathways Minor
* Pathways Minor AND supporting course(s)

Name of the course, minor, or project? If multiple, list them here. \*

Is this work to develop a new course/program or revise an existing one? \*

Pathways Outcomes Section

In this section, mark each Pathways Core and Integrative Outcomes with which your proposed work aligns.

Reminder: a course can meet a maximum of two core outcomes and at least one integrative outcome. A Pathways Minor must meet a minimum of three core outcomes and both integrative outcomes.

These could change in the progress of your work, but mark as best you can at this point in time.

Will your work align with the Discourse Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Critical Thinking in the Humanities Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Reasoning in the Social Sciences Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Reasoning in the Natural Sciences Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Quantitative and Computational Thinking Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States Core Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Intercultural and Global Awareness Integrative Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Will your work align with the Ethical Reasoning Integrative Outcome? \*

Yes

No

Grant Proposal Description Section

In this section you will walk through the details of the proposed work.

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2. To scale up best practices in general education to reach a greater number of students.  
3. To support the incorporation of engaging pedagogies and informative assessment strategies across the Pathways curriculum.  
4. To increase the incorporation of high-impact practices such as undergraduate research, project-based learning, education abroad, and service learning (Kuh, 2008) in Pathways courses and minors.  
5. To support the development and delivery of Pathways Minors, particularly those that span multiple colleges.

Please provide a short overview of this proposed work (2-3 sentences). \*

How does your proposed work align with the goals of the Pathways grant program? Address as many goals as applicable. \*

What are the plans for offering the course or minor (how often, what semesters) and what are the anticipated number of sections and enrollments? \*

Why are new resources needed to support the development or delivery of this course or minor and what existing resources are being leveraged? \*

What particular students do you anticipate taking this course or completing this minor and why? \*

Budget Section

In this section, you will upload your Excel budget form. The template can be found on our grant website: [https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/professional-development/grants.html](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/professional-development/grants.html&sa=D&ust=1542400621676000&usg=AFQjCNGp_f1EsvY7wswBlgVUWNKvvgL3Uw). Check out the SAMPLE on Sheet 2 of the template for further guidance.

Google Forms allows you to submit this form and edit it up until the February 1 deadline. HOWEVER, you can only upload this on your FINAL submission. A proposal missing this budget document will be deemed incomplete.

Excel Grant Proposal Budget

UPLOAD FILE

What is the name of the financial manager responsible for handling the transfer/spending of these funds? \*

What is the email address of the financial manager responsible for handling these funds? \*

To what org # will this funding be transferred? \*

To what fund # will this funding be transferred? \*

Commitment Section

In this section, you will first commit to the expectations of grant awardees. Next, you will upload a letter of support.

Note: If the applicant is completely unavailable for the Pathways Summer Institute, they will work with Stephen to develop an alternative professional development plan to be completed over the course of the year.

Awardees must commit to all of the following to receive funding: \*

* Participation in the Pathways Summer Institute, June 5-6 OR alternative (see above note)
* Participation in Pathways Grantees Cohort (ten 1hr meetings per year)
* Submission of a brief report by May 1 following each year of funding

Letter of Support Upload

Upload a letter of support signed by the Department Head and College Dean.

This letter of support should include the following:  
- a commitment to supporting the applicants' time and efforts to complete this work  
- a commitment to offer the course or minor upon completion of the work  
- a commitment that the course or program will serve Pathways General Education

Google Forms allows you to submit this form and edit it up until the February 1 deadline. HOWEVER, you can only upload this on your FINAL submission. A proposal missing this letter will be deemed incomplete.

Signed Support Letter Upload (signed by Dept Head and College Dean) \*

ADD FILE

Another Supper Letter Upload (optional, if needed)

ADD FILE

A copy of your responses will be emailed to biscotsm@vt.edu.

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