Transform MID-ATLANTIC

Engaging Campuses in Communities

Faculty Development Mini-Grants 2026-2027

Application Deadline: Tuesday, December 1, 2026 11:59 PM (EST)

Funding Opportunity: TMA will award up to ten $1,000 mini-grants to member campus faculty members to support faculty development workshops and/or projects taking place from January 1 – June 15, 2027.

Click here to access the application form

Purpose

The purpose of the Transform Mid-Atlantic Faculty Development Mini-Grant Program is to support TMA member faculty development in the areas of service-learning, civic and community engagement, justice, equity, diversity and inclusion, advocacy and democratic engagement, and community development and empowerment. These TMA Faculty Development Mini-Grants ($1,000 each) are designed to develop and expand knowledge, skills, attitudes, and understanding around the use of service-learning and civic and community-engaged pedagogy that ultimately scaffold institutions' capacity to "develop global citizens and build just communities."

Eligible Teams and Individuals

Transform Mid-Atlantic's Faculty Development Mini-Grant Program is available to faculty of TMA member institutions. The Program will consider proposals from individuals or groups whose interests are consistent with the goals of the Program. The Program will not consider grant proposals for retroactive funding of faculty development projects that are already completed. While requests from individual faculty to inaugurate an innovative partnership or initiative may be considered, preference will be given to inter-institutional and inter-disciplinary team proposals.

Types of Projects Preferred

Applications that include the following will be given preference:

- Projects receiving institution matching funds (1:1 or 2:1 match is ideal)
- Workshops/Institutes open to participants from TMA network of institutions
- Inter-institutional and/or interdisciplinary partnerships
- Innovative topics and themes highlighting the pedagogy of service-learning and civic engagement across diverse disciplines
- Assessing learning outcomes which "develop global citizens and build just communities"
- Faculty development initiatives that are tied to institutional strategic priorities where there is institutional support to sustain the initiative

Types of Eligible Foci

Transform Mid-Atlantic's Faculty Development Mini-Grant Program will award grants for faculty development workshops and institutes supporting a range of topics such as, but not limited to:

- Service-learning and experiential learning
- Critical reflection
- Community-engaged pedagogy
- Community-engaged research and scholarship
- Justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion as learning outcomes
- Service-learning and community-engaged pedagogy across diverse disciplines
- Engaged departments: Developing a strategic plan for civic and community engagement
- Reviewing tenure and promotion criteria regarding service-learning/community-engaged pedagogy
- Civic learning, civic advocacy, civic engagement
- Deepening reciprocity in community partnerships
- Global citizenship and/or Intercultural competence
- Global citizenship competencies and learning outcomes
- Service-learning: anti-racist pedagogy
- Establishing and deepening reciprocity in campus-community partnerships
- Assessing student learning outcomes in service-learning courses
- Developing equity in community partnerships and assessing community partnerships
- Communities of Practice and/or establishing faculty-based learning communities
- Civic engagement, advocacy, and democracy building
- Peer mentoring for faculty developing their dossier for tenure and promotion
- Developing and assessing K12-higher education partnerships (P20)
- Inward Journey ~ Outward Journey: resilience and renewal as a bedrock of sustainability
- Aligning with Accreditation: Using civic and community engagement in institution's self-study
- Community partner voice in project development, implementation, and assessment
- Service-learning in a rural (or urban) context
- Developing and assessing developmental outcomes and indicators (undergraduate, graduate)
- Writing and publishing in civic and community engagement field
- Community Empowerment through Service-Learning (including focus on specific populations)
- Scaling impact: Course design with General Education courses and First-year Seminars

Permittable Expenses

TMA Mini-Grant funds may be used to pay for:

- Honoraria
- Food
- Transportation
- Materials
- Student assistants

Application Procedure

Applicants should complete and submit an application via this online form. The application requests detailed information describing the project, its goals, significance, and proposed budget (see a list of all required information on pages 4-5). For consideration, applications must be received by Transform Mid-Atlantic by the deadline. Applicants will be notified by TMA when their application is received and when it is approved or denied. TMA will notify grantees within two weeks of the application deadline date.

Review Process and Evaluation Criteria

Submissions will be reviewed by designated representatives of Transform Mid-Atlantic. Applicants will be contacted if further information is needed.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate proposals:

- **Innovation and relevance** – How innovative and relevant is the proposed workshop/institute to the campus(es), region, field?
- **Building diversity of civic engagement field** – How will the proposed presenters/facilitators represent diversity of TMA network, region, and campus-community partnerships and how will the workshop/institute continue to build socio-cultural diversity in the leadership in our field?
- **Participant engagement and learning outcomes** – How will participants demonstrate learning as a result of the workshop/institute and apply concepts after the workshop/institute?
- **Significance** – How important is the proposed faculty development topic? How many faculty/staff will be trained?
- **Program specifics** - How well defined is the program? How closely tied is the program to the stated goals? Are faculty/staff from other member institutions permitted to participate?
- **Feasibility and impact** - How feasible is the project in terms of time, budget requests, and available resources?

Final Report Requirements

If granted an award, a final report will be submitted 30 days after the conclusion of the proposed program via a form shared with grantees via an online form. This report will include 3-5 high resolution photos and a one-to two-page summary of the project, reflecting on any successes and challenges of the program. Please include a reflection on the impact or outcomes of the mini-grant program, the people impacted, and a personal example or story that came out of the program. This mini-grant program report may be used in Transform Mid-Atlantic media, such as on the website, in the monthly newsletter, on social media, and in documents like the Annual Report.

Questions / Support

We welcome applicants to ask questions about their planned proposals or to request additional information. Please contact Anthony Wagner V, Director of the TMA Civic Fellowship Program and Special Projects, with questions via email at wagner@transformmidatlantic.org.

Application Information

Below is information you will be asked to include when completing the online application:

Applicant Information	• Full Name • Position / Title • Institution Name • Email Address • Phone Number • Institutional Mailing Address (where check will be mailed if awarded)
Proposal Information	• Project / Event Name • Abstract (150 word limit) • Date(s) of Project / Event • Number of Faculty/Staff that Project/Event will Reach • If proposed project/event will be open to participants from other TMA member campuses and, if so, how many • Total Grant Request (up to $1,000) • If you will receive an institutional match for grant and, if so, institutional match amount • If you are applying for other funds • Whether ability to complete/host project is dependent on funds from TMA
Project / Event Proposal Description	Attach **PDF document** that provides detailed information about the following: • ***Project Objectives***: List the specific objectives you plan to accomplish with this project • ***Project Outcomes and Impact:*** Write a short statement of the learning outcomes and impact you expect with the program - as well as who, specifically will be impacted. How do these outcomes align with TMA's mission and vision? • ***Budget and Timeline:*** List expected project costs and provide a provide a project timeline (projects and events must be completed by June 15, 2027). • ***Project Evaluation and Reflection:*** Describe how you will evaluate project success and assess outcomes. • ***Partnerships:*** Indicate how community members and partners will be engaged and whether you will invite faculty from other institutions in MD, DC, DE, VA, WV, & PA to participate in your project / event.
Agreements & Signature	You will be asked to agree to the following: • The proposed project/event embraces and reflects TMA's mission, vision, and values including thoughtful intentionality around including creating community, global citizenship, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, and sustainability. • I agree to submit to TMA a one-to-two-page project summary, 3-5 high resolution photos (usable in TMA publications and online), and a reflection on the impact or outcomes of the mini-grant and how the process might be improved moving forward using the final report form, which will be provided. This form will be due one month after the completion of the faculty development project/event.