

Joint Education Research Group (JERG)

Request For Proposals (RFP)

RFP for 2016 - 2017 School-Based Education Research Initiatives

The Centre for Education Research in the Faculty of Education at UPEI is pleased to announce this new call for school-based education research proposals.

JERG funds small/pilot research projects that address school-based student learning and achievement and/or teacher growth. Proposals in either English or French are welcome.

Proposals for collaborative, school-based education research are invited from teams that may include any PEI teacher or group of teachers working with a UPEI faculty member(s), and potentially with a pre-service teacher and graduate student. The UPEI faculty member will take responsibility for managing the research funds and project completion. PEI teachers will take responsibility to ensure that the research is practical and useful to them, and that access to the schools is ethically arranged. Where a pre-service teacher or graduate student is involved, the team will ensure that they are included and mentored as valued research partners.

The JERG process will be managed by the Centre for Education Research.

Funding Available:

Proposals are invited for research requiring funding, to a maximum of \$3,500 per proposal.

Eligibility:

Any topic of interest to the Faculty researcher and K-12 partners is eligible for funding. Research partnerships may be initiated by Faculty reaching out to teachers or teachers exploring research interests with Faculty. Examples include but are not restricted to:

- observational research to record practice and analyze teaching processes and outcomes
- action research to measure teacher assessment of student outcomes
- critical analysis of measurement tools for evaluating student achievement
- implementation, assessment and documentation of innovations in teaching and learning

Note that while previously funded JERG projects are eligible to apply, priority will be given to new projects.

JERG is being offered with a very tight timeline to match budget deadlines. The process is managed by the Director of the Centre for Education Research, Dr. Tim Goddard, in collaboration with faculty colleagues who have managed JERG in the past.

With acknowledgement that the call for proposal submissions is very tight, the timeline for the 2016-2017 JERG projects will be:

Dates	Actions	Responsibility
January 2016	Request For Proposals circulated	Director, Centre for Education Research (CER)
February 18th at noon	Proposals due in PDF format as a single file to CER, Attention Ms. Cathy Hennessey, cahennessey@upei.ca	Applicant
February 22 nd	Proposals reviewed by CER Review Panel (representatives from CER, PEI DEELC, and PEITF)	CER
February 25 th	Funding announcement.	CER
March 1 st	Research commences	Applicant
April 30, 2017	Final Report due to the Director, CER	Applicant
April 30, 2017	Final date for funding claims with Financial Services	Faculty Research Collaborator

Proposal Guidelines

Each proposal should be 5 – 7 pages in length, including title page and references, and should include:

- Cover page, including team names and e-mail addresses
- Brief background literature and a research question
- Summary of theory, values, assumptions that explain and/or guide the research
- Methods, e.g., action research, measurement tools, narratives, etc.
- Research participants or subjects and how they will be engaged
- Timeline from start to finish, including final report & expense submission
- Ethics, confirming UPEI ethical approval or other ethics requirements where applicable
- Knowledge translation and mobilization plans, including how the final report may be used, and how the results will be presented to at least one PEI forum (e.g., PEITF conference, UPEI research event, etc.)
- References that have been used in writing the proposal
- Budget (based on UPEI Research Services allowable expenses, and UPEI Human Resources policies for personnel costs). Funding may cover costs such as:
 - personnel to assist with the research or a project
 - travel, especially for team collaboration or for the project itself
 - teleconference or digital communication for the team or project
 - small equipment, e.g., digital technology
 - miscellaneous materials costs

JERG Proposal Review Criteria

The following criteria will be used to evaluate and rank each proposal received. Please note that this is a competitive process and not all proposals will be funded, as acceptable proposals may be ranked beneath the cut-off of available funding.

Criteria	Maximum	Rating
Clear focus on issues in the educational domain (e.g., diversity issues, assessment, specific educational or curricular issues)	5	
Clear context for research, e.g., educational or curricular context, rural or urban PEI, or other cultural context	5	
Clearly describes how the research will be done & rationale for the research question, approach, methods, participant selection	5	
Provides a clear timeline of research activities from start to finish of knowledge sharing/translation and budget completion	5	
Clearly demonstrates a plan and access to expertise to analyze the findings (e.g., for qualitative, quantitative, critical analysis)	5	
Attends appropriately to ethical issues and includes required materials to apply for UPEI and PEI School consent if funded	5	
Includes key references that demonstrate awareness of existing research on which to build the proposed research	5	
Adds to the knowledge base about learning and education that will be communicated through a knowledge exchange, translation, dissemination, and mobilization plan	5	
Builds capacity in PEI education research partnerships	5	
Additional merit	5	
SCORING TOTALS	50	

Ratings out of 5: 1=unsatisfactory (incomplete & sketchy); 2=partly satisfactory (complete yet needing more planning); 3=satisfactory; 4=quite satisfactory (good); 5=very satisfactory (excellent).

Each proposal will be adjudicated using the above criteria and assessed as follows:
(1) Funded; (2) Recommended but not funded; (3) Not funded.

For further information please contact either Dr. Tim Goddard (tgoddard@upei.ca) or Ms. Cathy Hennessey (cahennessey@upei.ca).

Reminder: Proposals should be submitted as a single PDF file to Ms. Cathy Hennessey cahennessey@upei.ca no later than Thursday 18th February at noon.