

TIAA INSTITUTE AND SOUTHERN EDUCATION FOUNDATION REQUEST FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

DUE: FRIDAY, JULY 2, 2021, 5 P.M. ET

The Southern Education Foundation, in partnership with the TIAA Institute, is accepting research proposals focused on the following priority research themes: the impact of COVID-19 on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the impact of COVID-19 on racial wealth disparities. We have a strong interest in the following research topics but welcome proposals relevant to any of our priority areas:

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON HBCUs:

- *The Impact of COVID-19 on the Financial Stability of HBCUs*
- *The Effect of Technological Innovation on Distance or Blended Learning and Educational Services at HBCUs*
- *The Impact of COVID-19 on the HBCU Workforce*
- *The Impact of the Pandemic on College Affordability*

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON RACIAL WEALTH DISPARITIES:

- *Strategies for Improving Outcomes of Households with Educational Loan Debt*
- *The Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Financial Well-Being and Racial Wealth Disparities*
- *The Impact of the Racial Wealth Gap on Educational Attainment*
- *The Impact of COVID-19 on Workforce Participation and Labor Market Outcomes*
- *The Impact of Student Debt on Racial Wealth Inequality*

ELIGIBILITY

Any faculty member or scholar with an active appointment at an HBCU is eligible to submit a proposal. Research teams may include a non-HBCU faculty member or scholar. Junior faculty members are encouraged to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit the following materials as a single file in an e-mail to Titilayo Tinubu Ali at tali@southerneducation.org. The submission deadline is July 2, 2021 at 5 p.m. ET.

Cover page with proposal title, primary investigator names(s) and full contact information

1. Abstract (150 words)
2. Proposal narrative (3-5 pages)
 - Project motivation, significance and goals
 - Research question(s)
 - Methodology (i.e., analytical framework, data sources, sensitivity analysis)
 - Potential practical implications or conclusions
 - Academic or practitioner publications where you might submit the research
 - Academic or practitioner conferences where the research could be presented
4. List of references cited in the narrative (not part of page count)
5. Timeline for deliverables (see below)
6. Complete resumes/CVs of the primary investigator(s)
7. Budget that itemizes costs for at least the following:
 - Personnel, including salary and benefits for the principal investigator(s) and any other investigators or research assistants (each separately itemized).
 - Travel for research-related purposes.
 - Equipment, materials, and other expenses, including the itemized costs, if any, of data, postage, and/or printing.

Note: This grant program funds direct research costs only; overhead and indirect costs are not funded. Applications from individual researchers are welcome. Research teams of no more than two researchers may also apply. A maximum of \$24,000 per individual researcher (awarded in equal parts over two years) and a maximum of \$48,000 (awarded over two years) for teams of two researchers will be allocated per selected proposal.

DELIVERABLES

1. Technical report, analogous to an academic working paper, that is suitable for publication as a TIAA Institute *Research Dialogue* on the Institute's web site and on the Southern Education Foundation web site.
2. Non-technical paper in the 2,000-3,000-word range that summarizes the motivation for the research, key findings, and implications of the findings.
3. Executive summary (no longer than 300 words) outlining the key findings and implications of the research in plain English.
4. Bulleted list of three to five key takeaways.
5. Deliverables must be submitted in MS Word, with tables/charts in MS Excel.
6. Up to two oral presentations of the research if requested by the Southern Education Foundation and TIAA Institute. Resulting travel-related expenses will be paid by the Southern Education Foundation and TIAA Institute.

TIMELINE

- Southern Education Foundation and TIAA Institute will evaluate proposals through July 2021.
- Awards will be granted in August 2021.

- Final reports are expected one year from start date of the grant.
- Progress reports and working papers are to be submitted four and eight months from date of grant.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS

1. Acknowledge the Southern Education Foundation and TIAA Institute's grant support on papers and presentations stemming from the funded research. Please use the statement below:

"The project described received funding from the Southern Education Foundation, in partnership with TIAA Institute. The content is solely the responsibility of the author(s) and does not necessarily represent the views of the Southern Education Foundation, TIAA or the TIAA Institute."
2. Comply with IRB and human subject requirements at the researcher's home institution.
3. Execute a grant agreement.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Titilayo Tinubu Ali with any questions at tali@southerneducation.org.

 TIAA Institute

