

CCC Innovation Fund Guidelines

The CCC Innovation Fund was established in FY 2013-14 and is now overseen by the Innovation Group. Innovation Fund grants boost CCC's innovation efforts by funding promising ideas to improve CCC.

- The Innovation Fund is open to CCC employees only; employees from all disciplines of CCC are encouraged to participate.
- The Innovation Group is given the following criteria for reviewing applications: Does the project:
 - Promote equity and opportunity in higher education and our community.
 - Improve service to the CCC community and/or CCC students or other constituents.
 - Support CCC's strategic priorities.
 - Save time or money for CCC, its partners, or community members.
 - Improve CCC services or programs and make things better.
- The ideal innovation project is a proof-of-concept or pilot project that could ultimately be continued or replicated.
- Applications should be specific about how the project solves a problem and what steps will be taken to achieve the desired outcome.
- Innovation funds are intended to finance new work, not to replace or supplement current salaries. However, Innovation dollars may be used to hire additional expertise or staff, for example, consultants or contract employees specific to the project. Funds may not supplement existing staff budgets.
- Projects that are similar to a service or program already expected as part of the college's mission are not an Innovation Fund focus.
- Applications should communicate a comprehensive, well-thought-out plan for any requested Innovation dollars.
- If a project involves multiple college departments, support from those departments is essential. Applicants will be asked for confirmation that partner departments are on board with the project.
- Micro-grants are capped at \$20,000. Major grants range from \$20,001 to \$50,000. Funds can roll over to future fiscal years if not allocated.
- Proposals not chosen for Innovation funding may be refined/redeveloped and resubmitted during a future round.