

<b>Short Title</b>	Short-term FT classified position for innovation around lab kits
<b>1. Name</b>	Tory Blackwell
<b>2. Email</b>	toryb@clackamas.edu
<b>3. Department</b>	Science
<b>4. Please briefly describe your idea</b>	The science department has always had a small number of courses offered online with an online lab component. Due to the pandemic, the science department shifted additional lab courses online. Doing this required faculty to very quickly pivot and work with lab staff to make in-house lab kits. We found that students benefit from having this online lab option and plan to continue providing this option. The kits that have been currently developed are much cheaper than what is available through specialized vendors and because these kits are made in-house they closely align with student learning outcomes. This proposal would fund a short-term (6-month) full time classified position to help us continue to innovate around our lab kits by identifying vendors, pricing supplies, and finding alternative supplies that are less expensive. This position would also take inventory of kits and put processes in place to reuse kit materials to lower kit costs. Lastly, the position would develop a kit pricing sheet that can be used to track kit costs over time and ensure that we are properly accounting for the cost of kits.
<b>5. Indicate the strategic priority that this project supports. (check all that apply)</b>	Excellence in Teaching and Learning Holistic Student Support Organizational Health
<b>6. How does your idea support the College's strategic priorities?</b>	This proposal supports excellence in teaching and learning by allowing us to ensure that our online labs are at the same high quality as our in-person labs. It supports holistic student support by allowing us to continue to provide science lab courses in a more flexible format without introducing greater financial barriers. It supports organizational health by helping to ensure that the department, and therefore the college, is not taking a loss while producing lab kits.
<b>7. What contribution would this project make to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategic Plan? How does it contribute?</b>	By keeping kit costs low and providing greater access to science courses by having online options for a larger number of courses, we reduce barriers for students that have limited flexibility in their schedules and need to work during times when classes are offered on campus and students that have limited finances for attending school. Also, by not requiring faculty to do all of the work around developing the systems needed to support the lab kits, we ensure equity in workload for faculty.
<b>8. What problem, need or gap in service will be addressed? What evidence is readily available to illustrate the need or support the goal(s) of the project? Please include links to data sources if known.</b>	There is a clear need for online science lab education options, which leads to a clear need for having kits available so that students can really meet the learning outcomes associated with lab courses. At the same time, there is a gap in our knowledge of what it costs to develop the kits, so this proposal will let us fill that gap in knowledge and better support students.
<b>9. What is the benefit of this project (e.g. revenue potential, impact on student enrollment, retention, completion, etc.)?</b>	This project will ensure that we are appropriately spending funds. Without understanding the costs associate with kits, we cannot determine whether we are charging students too little and costing the department and college money or charging the students too much and having an undue financial impact on students. Making sure that the costs are appropriate also helps with student retention – students want to get what they pay for.
<b>10. What activities will be proposed in the project?</b>	1) Develop pricing documents for all kits to track kit costs including labor costs. 2) Develop a kit materials return process to reduce overall kit costs by allowing students to return materials. 3) Work with faculty to identify ways to reduce kit

	costs. 4) Fulfill additional kit orders as a result of the higher demand for kits for online courses.
<b>11. Identify stakeholders who will likely be involved in the project planning or delivery.</b>	Science lab supervisor and technicians, science department faculty, science department chair
<b>12. How do you think success could be measured for this project?</b>	Success will be measured in two ways: 1) comparison of kit costs over time and 2) having a clearly outlined process for pricing out value of returned kits at the end of the pilot period.
<b>13. Describe the investment (time, funds, etc.) that would probably be needed to get this project off the ground.</b>	Much of the infrastructure required to start this project is currently available. This project could start very quickly. The missing component is financial - we would need funds to pay the position for the work required.
<b>14. Have you identified a grant or other funding source to help cover related expenses?</b>	No
<b>15. If yes to 14, please provide more information about the grant or other funding source.</b>	
<b>16. Beyond the start-up costs, is additional or ongoing funding required to maintain this project in the future? If so, please describe the costs (amounts, frequency, etc.) as well as if you have identified sources for ongoing funding.</b>	Because part of this project involves kit fulfillment, future funding may be required to maintain kit fulfillment that matches the number of online lab courses being offered. Again, without a clear understanding of the costs associated with kit production, it would be difficult to know what level of funding is appropriate.
<b>17. What level of urgency best fits your idea?</b>	Immediate, needs to be explored within next 1-3 months
<b>18. If you answered "other" in question 17, please describe.</b>	
<b>19. Please include additional information you would like to share:</b>	I would like to emphasize again that making a larger assortment of online science labs available to students is something we plan to do as an innovation, but in order to do this effectively and ensure that the courses are of the same high quality as what we offer in person, we need to also innovate in terms of making lab kits available that meet the needs of the courses while placing the lowest financial burden possible on the students.
<b>20. Please share any questions you have for the Innovation Team:</b>	

Survey for this Innovation Fund request: <https://forms.gle/s29jbrCXB39yi3VF9>