



Entrepreneurship Education Innovation Grant (AY 2024-25) Call for Proposals

The Howard University & PNC National Center for Entrepreneurship is excited to announce the 2024-25 **Entrepreneurship Education Innovation Grant Program** to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in developing entrepreneurship opportunities through their institutions. Funding from this grant can be used for the creation and growth of entrepreneurship courses, centers, programs, workshops, and other relevant initiatives which benefit students, faculty, staff, alumni, and/or the greater community. Grant funding for each award recipient is \$25,000. A representative for each grant award recipient is required to be present at the Center's annual National Conference.

Grant Description

The Center requests proposals from faculty, staff, and administrative leadership at Historically Black Colleges & Universities to develop and implement programs that provide opportunity to Black entrepreneurs. The impact of the proposed project should specifically benefit the education and training of students, faculty, staff, and/or local entrepreneurs.

Projects that could be funded include, but are not limited to:

- The creation or growth of centers or offices for entrepreneurship
- Curriculum, courses and seminars designed to accelerate the development of student-run enterprises
- Programs and workshops which help launch and grow Black-owned businesses in the local community
- Programs, courses, and workshops which provide undergraduate and graduate students hands-on experience in working with African-American businesses and entrepreneurs
- Seminars designed to accelerate the development of faculty run enterprises or the training of faculty in entrepreneurial education and learning
- Partnerships which provide access to technologies that can increase the success of Black-owned businesses
- Research initiatives which advance knowledge related to Black entrepreneurship

Impact of the Proposed Project

In evaluating the potential relevance and effectiveness of the proposed project, applicants should consider:

- The quality of the proposed programming and its alignment to the needs of HBCU students and Black entrepreneurs
- The quality and feasibility of the project implementation timeline
- The breadth and quality of the applicant's strategic partners and alliances to support an entrepreneurial ecosystem
- The quantifiable results of the project included metrics such as the number of students impacted, the number of courses or curricula developed, the number of Black-owned businesses impacted, the number of new businesses created and/or the number of new businesses with new banking relationships.

Proposal Application Guidelines

The project proposal application will require the following details:

1. A summary of the proposed project implementation, goals, objectives, and outcomes
2. A record of current entrepreneurial programming at the college/university
3. A statement of the problem being addressed and need for funding
4. The competencies, experience, and skill sets of the project lead, team, and/or strategic partners
5. The metrics on which project impact will be evaluated and proposed measurement plan
6. The proposed spending of the requested funding
7. A timeline for implementation and spending

NOTE: This is a reimbursable grant, meaning that colleges/university recipients will spend down the balance of the award amount, and send invoices for their spending to Howard University for reimbursement. All funding will be awarded directly to the college/university not to individual departments, offices, or centers. It is the responsibility of the college/university to distribute or assign grant funding to the appropriate department, office, or center.

Important Dates & Deadlines

December 14, 2023: Applications Open

January 21, 2024: Proposals Submission Deadline

March 15, 2024: Innovation Grant Award Winners Notified

Please complete the grant application at the following link:

<https://hupnccenter.howard.edu/innovationgrant/>

NOTE: Grant award decisions will solely be made by the National Center for Entrepreneurship team, not by PNC Foundation, PNC Bank or its affiliates.

For any questions, comments or concerns, please email Associate and Regional Director, Dr. Johnny Graham, johnny.graham@howard.edu.

About the Howard University & PNC National Center for Entrepreneurship

The Howard University & PNC National Center for Entrepreneurship is a leading advocate and resource hub for Black-owned businesses and entrepreneurship education at Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs) around the country. The National Center enhances the success and growth of Black-owned businesses through providing programming, capital, curriculum, research, and other resources in collaboration with HBCUs and their surrounding communities. This includes partnering with Black-owned businesses to increase access to funding and to improve credit, supporting student-run and faculty-run enterprises, providing students hands-on experience working with Black-owned businesses, providing access to technologies that can increase success and much more.

The National Center is headquartered at Howard University, and includes three other regional centers (located at Morgan State University, Clark Atlanta University, and Texas Southern University) which coordinate programs, research, and other community outreach efforts at partner HBCUs across the country.