President & Provost Initiative: Faculty Research Awards in Inclusive Excellence

The University seeks proposals for Faculty Research Awards to promote Inclusive Excellence (FRA-IE). Through this program, we encourage and accept proposals for projects that will investigate issues of inclusive excellence that support student access and success on the CSU Long Beach campus and/or in our immediate geographical region. Proposed projects should span AYs 2025-26 and 2026-27, with research and development in year 1 and an implementation phase in year two.

Inclusive excellence is a professional practice by which faculty members of all backgrounds draw upon a range of strategies, skills, and insights—acquired through training as well as personal experience—to enhance learning, innovation, and institutional effectiveness.

Inclusion is an active, intentional, and ongoing engagement with diversity across the curriculum, co-curriculum and our communities to increase awareness, content knowledge, cognitive sophistication, and empathic understanding of the complex ways individuals interact within systems and institutions.

McNair, T. B., Bensimon, E. M., & Malcom-Piqueux, L. (2020). *From equity talk to equity walk: Expanding practitioner knowledge for racial justice in higher education*. John Wiley & Sons.

Inclusive Excellence consists of four primary elements: 1. A focus on student intellectual and social development. 2. A purposeful development and utilization of organizational resources to enhance student learning. 3. Attention to the cultural differences learners bring to the educational experience and that enhance the enterprise. 4. A welcoming community that engages all of its diversity in the service of student and organizational learning.

Bauman, G. L., Bustillos, L. T., Bensimon, E. M., Brown, M. C., & Bartee, R. (2005). Achieving equitable educational outcomes with all students: The institution's roles and responsibilities. *Washington, DC: Association of American Colleges and Universities*.

The goals of the FRA-IE program are:
- shed light on how the campus approaches faculty, staff and student recruitment, retention and success
- the valuation of teaching, scholarship, and service
- create knowledge that The Beach can contribute to broader national conversations around inclusive excellence in higher education

The program features reliance upon our significant Beach intellectual capital to interrogate campus processes, programming, practices, policies, and norms through the lens of inclusive excellence. The FRA-IE program facilitates exploration of ways for the Beach academic community can engage in strategic partnerships within the greater Long Beach community for public good against the background of our diverse campus and local populations. Results of the research should ultimately help stimulate evidence-based directions toward achieving our campus inclusive excellence goals.

PROJECT THEMES Proposals with merit will be considered from across four themes.
1. IE Campus Programming - describe development and evaluation of programming with high scalable potential to advance campus goals toward inclusive excellence and equitable upward mobility within the Beach community
2. IE Campus Information - use institutional data or collect new data to unpack issues of inequities around student enrollment; persistence; engagement; course and degree completion patterns; Beach faculty, student and employee experiences, or gaps in institutional inclusiveness

3. IE Scholarship Across Disciplines – engage in unique scholarship that examines inclusive excellence processes, norms, and practices across disciplines
4. IE Partnerships – describe exploration, development, and evaluation of high promise partnership concepts with LBC and surrounding community entities toward promoting shared investment in various educational and entrepreneurial opportunities that can benefit a wide diversity of populations

REVIEW PROCESS Ten (10) awards of maximum $15,000 will be funded will be funded in this current competition. Participants in this grant program must be a CSULB tenured or tenure-track faculty member. Allowable expenses include faculty assigned time up to 6 WTUs; materials and supplies; data services; publication costs; allowable travel. The award period is two academic years.

Each academic college will develop and administer the proposal review process for FRA-IE. One FRA-IE award will be granted to Business, Education, Engineering, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, the Arts, and the University Library. Two FRA-IE awards will be provided to Liberal Arts and Health and Human Services in consideration for their larger FTEF.

It is strongly recommended that each college review committee consists of a diverse group of faculty with representation of across professorial ranks, as well as across races and ethnicities, and genders. They must be committed to advancing the campus inclusive excellence goals.

The timeline for the competition:

17 March 2025	RFP released to faculty
14 April 2025	Faculty submission deadline; **check with your college office for their submission process**
5 May 2025	College review completed; colleges submit one (1) selected proposal to ORED-Grants@CSULB.edu Attn: FRA-IE
12 May 2025	Awards announced; period of award 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2027

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES Proposals will be limited to five (5) narrative pages with the following proposal components:
- Project Title
- FRA-IE Theme # (1 – 4 as listed above)
- Introduction/Background
  - Significance - Please describe the problem that your project will address. If possible, include support information such as data, evidence-based practices that demonstrate the need for the project.
  - Project Goal/s and Outcome/s - Please present measurable goal/s for the proposed project.
- Methodology - Please provide a brief overview of the project plan, including proposed approach and/or activities and implementation plan.
- Addressing Inclusive Excellence Issues - Please provide a brief narrative about the anticipated impact that the project's outcome/s, and how they will advance the FRA-IE theme selected for the proposal.
- Sustainability After Project Period – Please comment on:
  - Potential for External Funding - 1) Briefly describe the potential for project outputs to serve as preliminary data or other foundation for external funding initiatives or 2) not applicable.
  - Potential Institutional Scalability - 1) Briefly describe the potential for scaled campus implementation, including resources, personnel, infrastructure etc. to support success or 2) not applicable.
- Budget and Budget Justification
  - Proposal Budget Template-FRA-IE

FIRST-YEAR REPORT SUBMISSION

A first-year status report is due on 26 October 2026 to ORED-Grants@csulb.edu Attn*:* FRA-IE. There is no required format or template.

FINAL REPORT SUBMISSION

A final report is due on 25 October 2027 to ORED-Grants@csulb.edu Attn*:* FRA-IE. There is no required format or template.

Please submit any questions or concerns to ORED-Grants@csulb.edu Attn: FRA-IE.