

# THE GRADUATE RECORD

THE CATO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION RESEARCH AND GRADUATE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

## NSF NOYCE GRANT RECIPIENTS

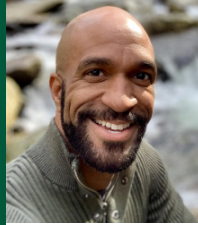
Congratulations to a stellar team of faculty including Dr. Michelle Stephan (PI) and Drs. David Pugalee and Daniel Alston (Co-PIs)



Dr. Michelle Stephan



Dr. David Pugalee



Dr. Daniel Alston

on their successful NSF Noyce Grant proposal, entitled Ethical Reasoning in Computational Thinking. The project seeks to add 24 highly qualified mathematics and science teachers, who have a strong background in ethical computational thinking, to the teaching workforce in North Carolina. The need for STEM professionals, including computer scientists will continue to surge, with computer and information technology jobs predicted to increase 12% in the next 10 years. As educators, it is important to prepare students to compete and succeed in this workforce, and a solid foundation in computing is necessary. Unfortunately, teacher preparation programs do not include an emphasis on computational thinking, much less from an ethics perspective. The Ethical Reasoning in Computational Thinking grant is a 5-year, \$1.2 million NSF Robert Noyce scholarship program that will prepare teachers to incorporate ethical computational thinking in their future instruction.

## FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

Congratulations to Mia Garcia, first year Counseling doctoral student, who was recently awarded a fellowship from the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). The NBCC Minority Fellowship Program provides financial support to master's- and doctoral-level



Mia Garcia

counseling students who commit to serving minority communities. With this competitive national award, Mia will receive \$20,000 and additional funding for mandatory training and conferences throughout the two fellowship years. Counseling has had a number of students receive this award over the past several years, which speaks to the quality of the program and its candidates. Way to go Mia!

## FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

Sheree Harper, Counseling doctoral student, was recently awarded an Interdisciplinary Minority Fellowship from the Interdisciplinary Training Advisory Committee of the Interdisciplinary Minority Fellowship Program (IMFP). The IMFP fellowship is awarded through a federal grant to the American Psychological Association from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). It is uniquely tailored to provide students with support and training beyond what is offered by most fellowship programs and other institutions. As part of the fellowship, Sheree will receive a stipend of \$23,000 for her appointment period. Congratulations!



Sheree Harper

## CLIMBING THE RANKINGS!

The US News & World Report Graduate School Rankings for education were officially released on Tuesday, April 25. Our ranking climbed from 76 in 2022-23 to 70 for 2023-24. This is our highest ranking in recent history.

## OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

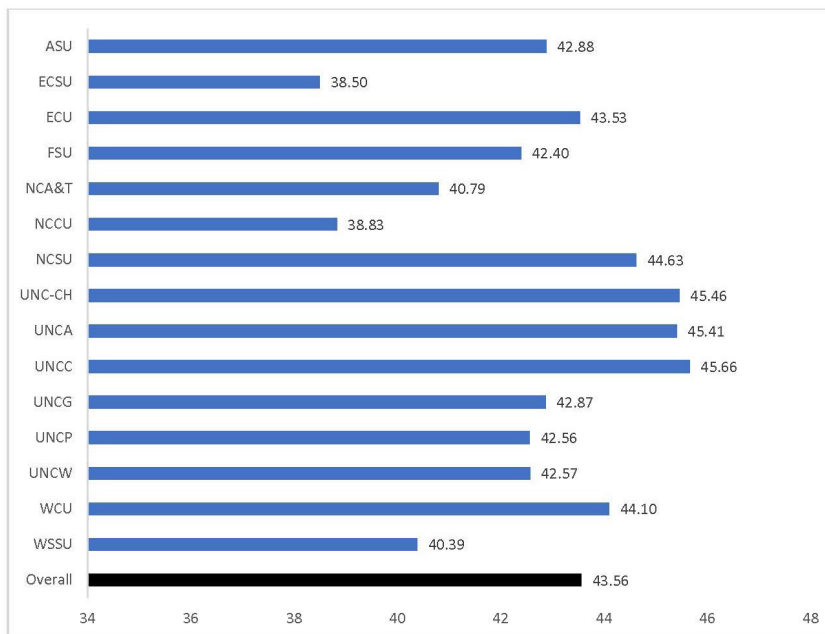
The 26th annual International Education Celebration took place on April 13, 2023. Adriana Medina, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Reading Education in the Cato College of Education, was recognized as the faculty award recipient for her outstanding contributions to the enhancement of the international education experience at UNC Charlotte. Medina's accomplishments are many, and in addition to her scholarship and research in areas such as literacy, language arts, reading comprehension, and multicultural and global education, she has also led education abroad programs both in the traditional sense and through globally networked virtual learning with partners in multiple countries. Medina also serves on the Office of International Programs' University Council, and is president of the Mu Chapter Phi Beta Delta international honor society board.



## 2023 EXCELLENCE IN PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION

After reviewing over 500 student learning outcome plans and reports from 2021 and 2022, the Office of Assessment and Accreditation identified seven model programs where faculty engaged in meaningful conversations about outcome results and strategies for improvement, used results to make curricular and/or programmatic revisions, and set higher expectations of themselves and their students. One of these seven programs is the Master of Arts in Teaching in Middle Grades and Secondary Education. Further, after reviewing over 340 Curriculog proposals from 2021 and 2022, the Office of Assessment and Accreditation identified four model programs where program leaders solicited feedback from faculty, advisory board members, alumni, and current students about the curriculum and made changes based on their input in order to make improvements. One of these four programs is the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. Both of these programs are housed in the Department of Middle, Secondary and K-12 Education. The Office of Assessment and Accreditation recognized these programs at its 2023 Excellence in Assessment Recognition Meet and Greet Reception on Wednesday, April 19th.

*edTPA Total Scores of UNC System Teacher Candidates in the 2021-22 Academic Year—By Institution*



## RECOGNIZED LEADERSHIP & ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Dr. Brittany Anderson (Department of Middle, Secondary & K-12 Education) who was recently selected for the Charlotte Business Journal's 2023 40 Under 40 Awards. Winning candidates were selected based on leadership and achievements in their professional career and involvement in the community. All winners will be included in the 40 Under 40 Special Report to be published May 19 by the Charlotte Business Journal, and will be recognized at the 30th annual 40 Under 40 Awards on Wednesday, May 17, from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Grand Bohemian Hotel Charlotte.



*Dr. Brittany Anderson*



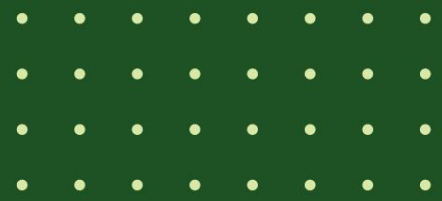




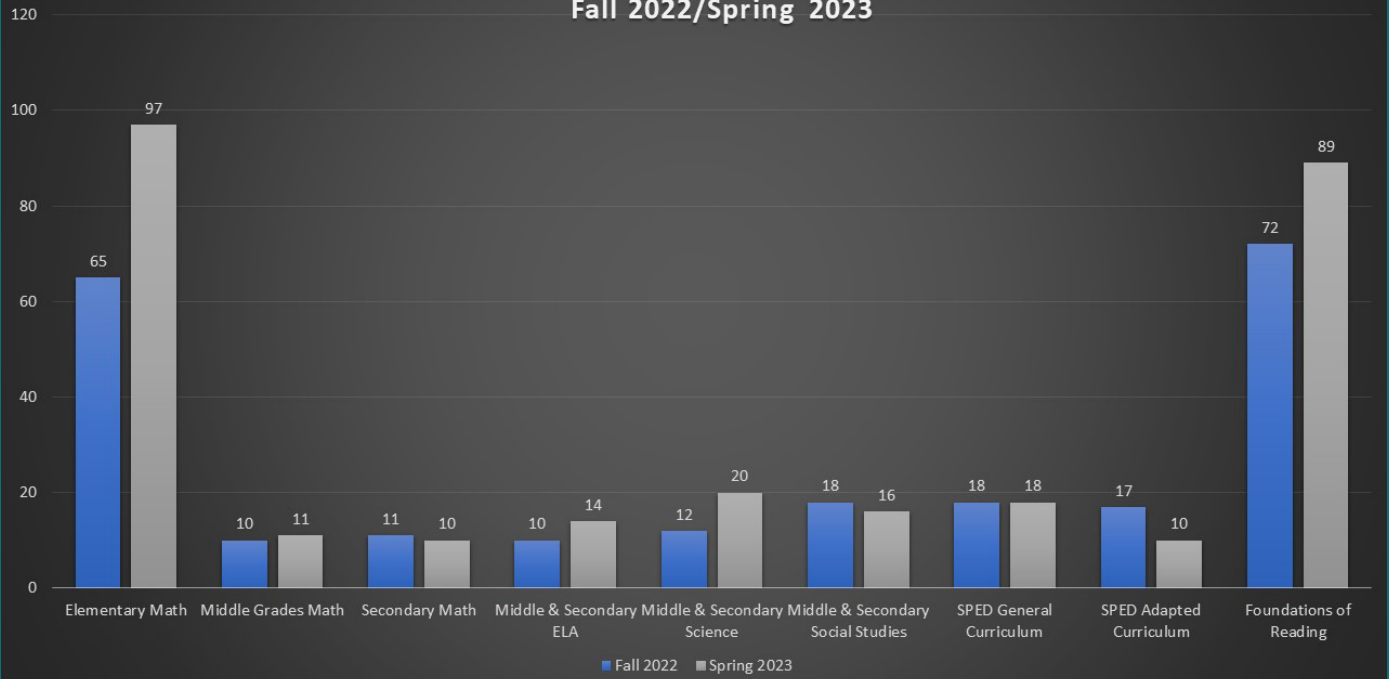
# Foundations of Reading Workshop

The Cato College of Education at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is pleased to continue to host a variety of free online workshops to support current and aspiring teachers as well as members of the UNC Charlotte community. In Summer 2023, we are pleased to offer a workshop intended to prepare teachers and aspiring teachers to complete the Foundations of Reading test. If interested in attending this workshop, please complete the form below to RSVP. Once you have submitted the form, you will receive an email invitation with a link to the online meeting well in advance of the date of the event. Please note that the workshop is conducted using Zoom. We look forward to seeing you!

**Sign up for the workshop via our google form:  
<https://forms.gle/5LBc2D5g6RiiCQSw9>**



## Cato College of Education Test Prep Workshop Attendance Fall 2022/Spring 2023



### HELPING TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO THE PROFESSION

In fall 2022 and spring 2023, over 500 people attended one of the 9 Praxis and Pearson test workshops offered by the Cato College of Education. These workshops help to remove barriers to the profession for students who wish to use a passing Praxis score to meet a program admission requirement and who need to pass the Praxis to earn their teaching license.

### GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

Tierra Parsons and Torie Wheatley were selected to receive the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction 2023 American Education Research Association (AERA) Graduate Student Travel Award. Nominated by faculty for their outstanding work, Tierra and Torie will receive \$1000 in travel funds to present their research at the 2023 AERA Annual Conference.



*Tierra Parsons*



*Torie Wheatley*

### ENGAGED LEADERSHIP FELLOWS

Deziree Baker, Debbie Winch, and Patti Brooks were recently selected as recipients of the 2023 Engaged Leadership Initiative (ELI) Fellowship in the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. This award includes recognition of their emerging leadership in the program as well as scholarly potential. The ELI Fellowship is an innovative program designed to unleash the potential of doctoral leaders to create collective solutions to educational challenges. The primary purpose is to promote doctoral student leadership in the Charlotte Ph.D. Curriculum and Instruction program while providing collaborative opportunities for advancing doctoral research and community engagement. As an ELI Fellow, Deziree, Debbie, and Patti will receive a \$1000 for conference travel, professional conference memberships, or advancing dissertation research.



*Deziree Baker*



*Debbie Winch*



*Patti Brooks*



**CHARLOTTE**  
CATO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

## CATO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FACULTY WRITING GROUP

A supportive space that helps researchers to...

- Take advantage of structured writing time
- Meet individual writing goals
- Enhance writing productivity
- Break isolation and build community

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If you would like to learn more about the Cato  
College of Education Faculty Writing Group,  
please contact Scott Kissau @[spkissau@uncc.edu](mailto:spkissau@uncc.edu).



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSIDER

## AMERICAN COUNCIL ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

### Research priorities projects

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages invites applications to its Research priorities projects. These support empirical research on six priority areas that are currently critical to improving world language education. The research priorities are listed in alphabetical order and are of equal importance: assessing learning outcomes in K-16 settings; equity and access in language learning; equity and access in language teaching; immersion/dual language and heritage language programs; intercultural teaching and learning; K-16 language educator development. Applicants must be ACTFL members.

**Deadline: 1 June 2023**

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## AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

### Research Grants Program

The AERA Grants Program provides Research Grants to faculty at institutions of higher education, postdoctoral researchers, and other doctoral -level scholars. The aim of the program is to advance fundamental knowledge of relevance to STEM education policy, foster significant science using education data, promote equity in STEM, and build research capacity in education and learning. The program supports highly competitive studies using rigorous quantitative methods to examine large-scale, education-related data. Awards for Research Grants are up to \$25,000 for 1- year projects, or up to \$35,000 for 2- year projects.

**Deadline: 15 Jun 2023**

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## BRADY FOUNDATION

### Existing Educational Program Evaluation Grants

The Foundation is currently accepting Existing Program Evaluation (EPE) proposals that have the potential to provide data that will inform how to address disparities in educational opportunities associated with race, ethnicity, and family income. The primary aim must concern evaluating the effectiveness of programs designed to promote positive cognitive and/or achievement outcomes for children (birth through 18 years) with the goal of informing ways to close the educational opportunity gaps associated with race, ethnicity, and income.

**Deadline: Stage 1 Applications are accepted throughout the year. If Invited to Continue, Stage 2 Proposal Due Dates are listed on the funder website.**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE

### English-language Researcher/Practitioner Grant Program

The purpose of the TOEFL English-language Researcher/Practitioner Grant Program is to enable practitioners to become involved in ETS's efforts to promote English language learning, and to support education and professional development for English-language teachers worldwide through ETS's assessments and services. Practitioners who are teaching English in various contexts including universities, intensive English programs, study-abroad programs, primary schools and secondary (middle or high) schools are invited to apply. Successful applicants will receive funding of US\$5,000-\$10,000. The main objectives of this grant program are 1) to provide language teachers who have direct contact with English learners in classrooms with opportunities to conduct and collaborate in research; 2) to accumulate additional information about the effectiveness of using TOEFL test scores for decision making in various contexts; and 3) to build a better understanding of the complex relationships among learner characteristics, English language learning environment and learning outcomes.

**Deadline: 15 July 2023.**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## FOUNDATION FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT

### FCD Young Scholars Program (YSP)

The Foundation believes that a deeper understanding of the role of ECE professionals in enhancing young children's early learning experiences can ultimately improve the chances for all children to reach their full potential. All proposed research must have primary questions that are relevant to the ECE workforce. All supported research questions must support scientific inquiry into the implementation of specific ECE programs, policies, or practices. While substantial research has focused on examining what constitutes high-quality early learning experiences and the impact of policies and programs to identify "what works," implementation research is needed to better understand how to bring about high-quality experiences for different groups of children, across different settings and contexts. Finally, all supported research must have a clear connection to programs, policies, and practices that have the potential to result in a positive impact on the ECE workforce and on the young children in the YSP priority populations. For proposed research projects involving either primary data collection or a combination of primary data collection and secondary data analysis, the maximum grant award, including indirect costs, is \$225,000 to be used over a two- to three-year period. Eligible researchers must have received their doctoral degrees (e.g., Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D., J.D., etc.) between January 1, 2014 and June 30, 2022.

**Deadline: 13 June 2023 (Letter of Intent); 13 October 2023 (Application).**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSIDER

## LONGVIEW FOUNDATION

As a small foundation, the Longview Foundation must focus its resources in order to have impact. Trustees have identified K-12 education in the U.S. as their primary area of interest and fund projects that directly support building global perspectives in teachers and students. Proposals funded will advance the field or impact significant numbers of students. The foundation is interested in supporting activities that have other sources of funding and can demonstrate sustainability beyond the grant period. Most grants will be between \$15,000 and \$25,000.

**Deadline: 23 June 2023 (LOI); 31 Aug 2023 (full proposal).**

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## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

### Education Activities for Responsible Analyses of Complex, Large-Scale Data

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this NIDA R25 program is to support training and educational activities for responsible analyses of complex large-scale data involving brain, behavioral, genomic, and socioenvironmental data that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research needs.

**Deadline: 08 Jan 2024 (Letter of Intent); 08 Feb 2024 (Application).**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL)

Program is committed to funding research and practice, with continued focus on investigating a range of informal STEM learning (ISL) experiences and environments that make lifelong learning a reality. This Program seeks proposals that center equity and belonging, and further the well-being of individuals and communities who have historically been and continue to be excluded, under-served, or underrepresented, due to gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability status, neurodiversity, geographic location, and economic status, among others, as well as their intersections. The current solicitation encourages proposals from institutions and organizations that serve public audiences, and specifically focus on public engagement with and understanding of STEM, including community STEM; public participation in scientific research (PPSR); science communication; intergenerational STEM engagement; and STEM media.

**Deadline: 10 Jan 2024.**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Discovery Research PreK-12 (DRK-12)

DRK-12 seeks to enhance the learning and teaching of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and computer science (STEM) by preK-12 students and teachers, through research and development of STEM education innovations and approaches. The DRK-12 program invites proposals that address immediate challenges that are facing preK-12 STEM education as well as those that anticipate radically different structures and functions of preK-12 teaching and learning. The DRK-12 program has three major research and development strands: (1) Assessment; (2) Learning; and (3) Teaching. The program supports six types of projects: (1) Exploratory, (2) Design and Development, (3) Impact, (4) Implementation and Improvement, (5) Syntheses, and (6) Conferences. All six types of projects apply to each of the three DRK-12 program strands.

**Deadline: 04 Oct 2023.**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### EDU Core Research (ECR:Core)

The EDU Core Research (ECR) program offers this ECR:Core solicitation and invites proposals for fundamental research (curiosity-driven basic research and use-inspired basic research) that contributes to the general, explanatory knowledge that underlies STEM education in one or more of the three broadly conceived Research Areas: Research on STEM Learning and Learning Environments, Research on Broadening Participation in STEM fields, and Research on STEM Workforce Development. Within this framework, the ECR program supports a wide range of fundamental STEM education research activities, aimed at learners of all groups and ages in formal and informal settings.

**Deadline: 05 Oct 2023.**

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# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSIDER

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### **EDU Core Research: Building Capacity in STEM Education Research**

EDU's Building Capacity in STEM Education Research supports projects that build investigators' capacity to carry out high-quality STEM education research that will enhance the nation's STEM education enterprise. In addition, the program seeks to broaden the pool of researchers who can advance knowledge regarding STEM learning and learning environments, broadening participation in STEM fields, and STEM workforce development. ECR: BCSER supports activities that enable researchers to expand their areas of expertise and acquire the requisite knowledge and skills to conduct rigorous research in STEM education. Career development may be accomplished through investigator-initiated professional development and research projects or through institutes that enable researchers to integrate methodological strategies with theoretical and practical issues in STEM education.

**Deadline: 23 Feb 2024.**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### **Expeditions in Computing**

In planning Expeditions projects, investigators are strongly encouraged to come together within or across departments or institutions to combine their creative talents in the identification of compelling, transformative research agendas that look ahead by at least a decade and promise disruptive innovations in computer and information science and engineering for many years to come.

**Deadline: 16 June 2023 (Preliminary Proposal).**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### **Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity (GRANTED)**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to encourage nationally transformative ideas and scalable models to strengthen the Nation's research enterprise, particularly at emerging research and minority-serving institutions. Broadly defined, the research enterprise includes human capital, practices and processes related to research development, research administration, technology transfer and commercialization, corporate relation/public-private partnerships, research integrity, compliance and security, research policy, student research training, and research leadership.

**Deadline: You can apply for this opportunity at any time**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### **Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE)**

The IUSE seeks to promote novel, creative, and transformative approaches to generating and using new knowledge about STEM teaching and learning to improve STEM education for undergraduate students. It supports projects that seek to bring recent advances in STEM knowledge into undergraduate education, that adapt, improve, and incorporate evidence-based practices into STEM teaching and learning, and that lay the groundwork for institutional improvement in STEM education.

**Deadline: Proposals are due in January/July annually.**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### **Research Coordination Networks (RCN)**

The goal of the RCN program is to advance a field or create new directions in research or education by supporting groups of investigators to communicate and coordinate their research, training and educational activities across disciplinary, organizational, geographic, and international boundaries. The RCN program provides opportunities to foster new collaborations, including international partnerships where appropriate, and address interdisciplinary topics. Innovative ideas for implementing novel networking strategies, collaborative technologies, training, broadening participation, and development of community standards for data and meta-data are especially encouraged. RCN awards are not meant to support existing networks; nor are they meant to support the activities of established collaborations.

**Deadline: Proposals are accepted at any time.**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSIDER

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer Science: Sites and Supplements

The RET in Engineering and Computer Science program supports authentic summer research experiences for K-14 educators to foster long-term collaborations between universities, community colleges, school districts, and industry partners. With this solicitation, the Directorates for Engineering (ENG) and Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) focus on a reciprocal exchange of expertise between K-14 educators and research faculty and (when applicable) industry mentors. K-14 educators will enhance their scientific disciplinary knowledge in engineering or computer science and translate their research experiences into classroom activities and curricula to broaden their students' awareness of and participation in computing and engineering pathways. At the same time, the hosting research faculty will deepen their understanding of classroom practices, current curricula, pedagogy, and K-14 educational environments.

**Deadline: 11 Oct 2023**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program

Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program (Noyce) invites innovative proposals that address the critical need for recruiting, preparing, and retaining highly effective elementary and secondary mathematics and science teachers and teacher leaders in high-need school districts. To achieve this goal, Noyce supports talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) undergraduate majors and professionals to become effective K-12 STEM teachers. It also supports experienced, exemplary K-12 STEM teachers to become teacher leaders in high-need school districts. In addition, Noyce supports research on the effectiveness and retention of K-12 STEM teachers in high-need school districts.

**Deadline: 29 Aug 2023**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

### Rural Postsecondary and Economic Development (RPED) Grant Program

The purpose of the RPED Grant Program is to improve rates of postsecondary enrollment, persistence, and completion among rural students through development of high-quality career pathways aligned to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand industry sectors and occupations in the region. Awards of a maximum of \$2,227,500 will be awarded to up to 23 recipients.

**Deadline: 20 June 2023**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## ROBERT WOODS JOHNSON FOUNDATION

### Evidence for Action: Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity

Evidence for Action prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions (e.g., policies, programs, practices) that have the potential to counteract the harms of structural and systemic racism and improve health, well-being, and equity outcomes. We are concerned both with the direct impacts of structural racism on the health and well-being of people and communities of color (e.g., Black, Latina/o/x, Indigenous, Asian, Pacific Islander people, and other races and ethnicities)—as well as the ways in which racism intersects with other forms of marginalization, such as having low income, being an immigrant, having a disability, or identifying as LGBTQ+ or a gender minority.

**Deadline: Continuous**

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## SPENCER FOUNDATION

### Racial Equity Special Research Grants

The Racial Equity Special Research Grants program supports education research projects that will contribute to understanding and ameliorating racial inequality in education. We are interested in research projects that are working toward transforming systems by reimagining educational opportunities in a multiplicity of education systems, levels, settings, and developmental ranges and that reach beyond documenting conditions and paradigms that contribute to persistent racial inequalities. Our goal for this program is to support rigorous, intellectually ambitious, and technically sound research that is relevant to the most pressing questions and compelling opportunities in relation to racial equity in education.

**Deadline: 16 May 2023 (LOI); 14 June 2023 (Full Proposal).**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO CONSIDER

## THE TEAGLE FOUNDATION

### Education for American Civic Life

The Education for American Civic Life initiative supports efforts to prepare students to become informed and engaged participants in the civic life of their local and national communities. Grants of varying amounts, ranging from \$100,000-\$300,000 over a 24-36 month period, will be made to each funded project participating in this initiative.

**Deadline: Continuous**

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



HAVE A  
**GREAT**  
SUMMER!

For a more comprehensive list of funding opportunities that align with areas of research interest and expertise in the Cato College of Education, please visit the curated list created in Pivot at the link provided below. You may be prompted to log in to Pivot to access these results. If you do not have a Pivot account set up, you can use your UNC Charlotte NinerNet credentials as the shibbolethwhereh login when prompted. [CLICK HERE](#).

## RESEARCH/FUNDING SUPPORT

### Proposal Development & Submission

Kristen Morse, Proposal Development Officer, Office of Research Services, [kmorse2@uncc.edu](mailto:kmorse2@uncc.edu)

### IRB Questions

Cat Runden, Research & Economic Development, [CatRunden@uncc.edu](mailto:CatRunden@uncc.edu)

### Post-Award Support

Sarah Johnson, Post-Award Specialist, Office of Research Services, [sjohn305@uncc.edu](mailto:sjohn305@uncc.edu)

Jennifer Jones, Business Services Coordinator, [Jennfer.Jones@uncc.edu](mailto:Jennfer.Jones@uncc.edu)

**Have content related to graduate education, research, or grant writing that you would like to share with COED faculty and staff in a future issue? Please contact Scott Kissau: [spkissau@uncc.edu](mailto:spkissau@uncc.edu)**