

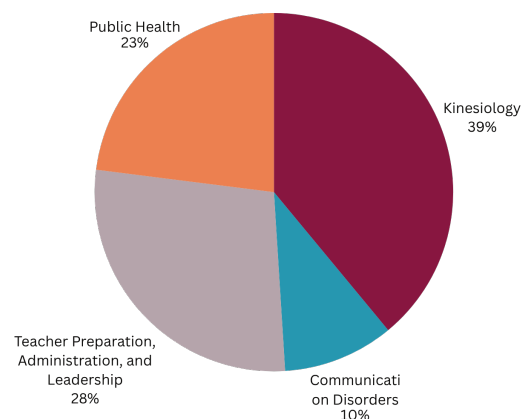
College of HEST | Associate Dean of Research

Fall 2025 Mini-Grant Applications

Overview

The Office of the Associate Dean for Research solicited applications for a funding opportunity in Fall 2025. Funding was made available to both students and faculty for travel and/or research-related expenses. All applicants for Fall 2025 were able to receive full funding of the amount applied for. Five faculty awardees and four student awardees received mini grants for travel and research, totaling \$5,150 in awards. Awardees represented research initiatives across kinesiology, communication disorders, teacher preparation, and public health. The departments represented and the proportion of funding received by each can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1: Awards Percentages by Department



Faculty Awards

Two categories of mini grants were offered to faculty in amounts up to \$500. Travel awards were designed to support professional activities that enhance scholarship and career development, with special consideration given to recognition or honors such as invited presentations or substantial professional organization awards. Research awards were intended to address unforeseen research-related needs that could significantly delay or disrupt ongoing projects if left unmet. Publication fees were not an eligible expenditure, as the awards were meant to support ongoing projects.

Five faculty members received mini grants of \$500 each for travel expenses. Four faculty members from the Kinesiology department and one from the Communication Disorders department were represented among the awardees. Travel expenses are all designated for conference attendance, which is expected to provide important professional development for each applicant. Details of the amounts awarded to faculty in each department are listed in Table 2.

Department	Awards	Amount
Kinesiology	4	\$2,000
Communication Disorders	1	\$500

Table 2: Faculty Awards by Department



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Student Awards

The student mini grants were designed to provide financial assistance for research-related expenses to both graduate and undergraduate students across the college's nine academic units. Eligible expenses include data collection, participant incentives, research materials, software, travel for fieldwork, dissemination efforts, and trainings/workshops. Both undergraduate and graduate students were given equal consideration.

Funding was offered in two tiers: amounts up to \$500 in Tier 1 and amounts between \$500 and \$1,000 in Tier 2. Funding was anticipated for up to ten Tier 1 awards and up to five Tier 2 awards.

One graduate student and one undergraduate student submitted Tier 1 requests, and two graduate students submitted Tier 2 requests. All requests were fully funded. The total number of applications and the amounts awarded in each department are listed in Table 3.

Department	Awards	Amount
Teacher Preparation, Administration and Leadership	1	\$1,000
Public Health Sciences	1	\$500

Table 3: Student Awards by Department

Most of these applications included funding for participant compensation. Other types of expenditures included equipment (e.g., recording devices), software licenses, transcription services, recruitment materials, and conference travel. Projects were largely early phases of larger research projects. The majority of projects focused on issues relevant to New Mexico and the US-Mexico border region. Populations of interest included early childhood educators, bilingual educators, college students, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and Hispanic/Latino communities.

Key Takeaways

Applications represented a range of scholarly activities across several departments. Requests were modest and well-justified within the program parameters. While faculty applications solely requested travel funding, students applied for funding to work on new research.

There is significant potential for community impact, particularly in educational and mental health settings. These awards are expected to contribute to professional development for both students and faculty, providing increased opportunities for conference presentations, publications, community partnerships, and networking.

