

The Trustees of the Davis Educational Foundation have recently analyzed the impact of the Foundation's Presidential Grant program and are pleased to share these highlights.

The Presidential Grant Program is a permanent, ongoing program of the Davis Educational Foundation that seeks to assist college and university leaders in laying the foundation to redesign ongoing practices with intent to **contain cost increases and improve college affordability**. The program was conceived as a low-barrier entry point to the Davis Educational Foundation's grantmaking. Funding is available at two levels: up to \$2,500 for first-step awareness building activities that broadly engage the campus community, or up to \$10,000 for follow-up or longer term, deeper exploration or pilot initiatives.

Since 2015, DEF has awarded 68 Presidential Grants to 60 institutions, for a total of \$778, 940.

Successful applicants have used funding to support diverse cost-reduction efforts, including:

- *Strategic Planning*: elevating the focus of cost and affordability in strategic planning processes with campus leadership and trustees.
- *Campus Financial Literacy*: efforts to educate the wider campus community—including faculty members— about budgeting, the financial health of the institution, and the economic picture for higher education writ large.
- *Degree Path*: activities targeting accelerated graduation, increased retention, and improved persistence.
- *Administrative or Academic Restructuring*: redesigning structures and processes within these areas.
- *Curricular Efficiency*: maximizing campus resources to increase priority student outcomes.
- *Collaboration*: efforts to reduce costs by sharing services and/or systems between institutions.

"We used our Presidential Grant to pilot an option for rising sophomores in good academic standing to live off-campus, attend classes online, and work part-time, at a savings of approximately 35% of the normal tuition rate. That program was so successful that we decided to offer an expanded lower-cost initiative, *Lasell Works*, where students can earn professional experience throughout their time here while paying a declining tuition rate each year."

*Michael Alexander, President
Lasell College*

2015 Presidential Grant and 2017 Implementation Grant Recipient



"I will now have an informed perspective on financial aspects of management of my department and on policy for the school. What I learned today was an eye-opener."

*Faculty Workshop Participant
Colleges of the Fenway
2016 Presidential Grant Recipient*



Eligibility

The Davis Educational Foundation encourages submissions to continue work already begun by campuses or to launch new activities. New England-based four-year degree granting colleges and universities are welcome to apply. Prior recipients of Presidential Grants remain eligible to submit additional requests. The maximum grant term is one year.

"The Presidential Grant Program aims to help institutions examine the structural issues that contribute to high costs. There is no simple solution to this complex problem, but we have seen the considerable talent, creativity, and leadership residing on our campuses do much to address this challenge."

*William Reed, Trustee Emeritus
Davis Educational Foundation*

"The Foundation's founders Stanton and Elisabeth Davis hoped to encourage and assist cost reduction efforts at colleges and universities throughout New England. This program directly addresses their vision."

*Peter Davis, Trustee
Davis Educational Foundation*

For More Information

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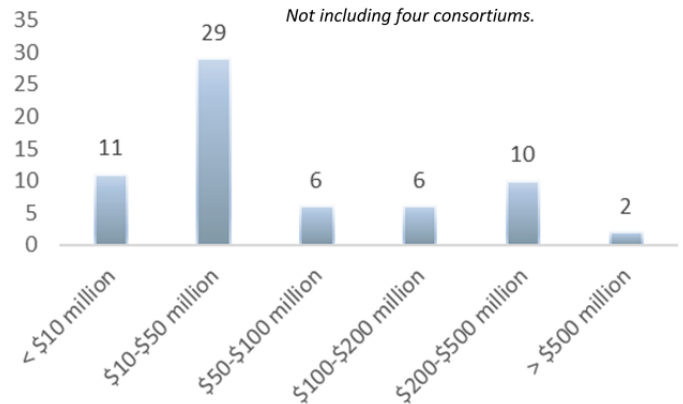
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Information is also available on our website:

<http://davisfoundations.org/def>

Presidential Grants by Institutional Endowment Size



Twelve campuses receiving Presidential Grants have gone on to receive a total of \$2,165,318 in cost-focused Implementation Grants from the Davis Educational Foundation.

About the Davis Educational Foundation

The Davis Educational Foundation, established as a public charitable foundation in 1985, supports the undergraduate programs of public and private, regionally accredited, baccalaureate degree granting colleges and universities throughout the six New England states. Elisabeth K. Davis and Stanton W. Davis co-founded the foundation after Mr. Davis's retirement as chairman of Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc. The foundation is an expression of the couple's shared support and value for higher education and has provided more than \$115 million in grants to 174 institutions.