

The Presidential Grant Program is a permanent program of the Davis Educational Foundation that seeks to support college and university leaders in redesigning ongoing practices to improve **college affordability, contain costs, and bolster institutional financial sustainability**.

The program was conceived as a low-barrier entry point to the Davis Educational Foundation's institutional finance-focused objective. Grants of up to \$25,000 are available to college and university leaders for a range of activities that include awareness building or exploration that broadly engages the campus community, pilot initiatives, or deeper investigations around collaboratives or strategies.

Since 2015, DEF has awarded 116 Presidential Grants to 81 institutions, for a total of \$916,000.

### We encourage requests to support:

- On-campus convenings to engage stakeholders, including staff, faculty, or students
- Cross-campus or cross-institutional convenings
- Strategic planning
- Task forces and committees
- Professional development or training related to understanding the financial landscape
- A pilot or internal research related to improving on-time graduation rates and strategies aimed at targeted student retention
- Advising, pathway, or curricular efficiency efforts
- Open Educational Resources
- Administrative or academic restructuring
- Building capacity for degree audits
- Financial modeling or planning
- Bringing in outside experts
- Campus financial literacy training
- Credit transfer work
- Exploration of ideas to generate revenue

"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 S. Reed, Trustee Emeritus  
Davis Educational Foundation*

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### Eligibility

The Davis Educational Foundation encourages submissions to continue work already begun 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. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

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### *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' 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 \$140 million in grants to 180 institutions over the past forty years.

### For More Information

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[www.davisfoundations.org/def/presidential-grant-program](http://www.davisfoundations.org/def/presidential-grant-program)