

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 99 Presidential Grants to 73 institutions, for a total of \$761,429.

**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.
- *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.
- *Open Educational Resources*: efforts to identify, review, and incorporate OER into courses to reduce the financial burden of textbooks on students
- *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 write large.

"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 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.

### ***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 more than \$130 million in grants to 179 institutions.

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## For More Information

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