UNC-Chapel Hill Professional Development Grant

The Employee Forum’s Professional Development Grant provides permanent University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill employees additional funding to help cover professional development opportunities.

The grant covers work-related education and training and can be used for conferences, certificates, non-credit classes, or similar instructional opportunities. In other words, it covers anything related to or contributing to the professional skills of the individual employee and not already covered by other resources at the University. Specifically, the grant is designed for expenses incurred prior to the opportunity (e.g., registration, materials, travel) that an employee’s department or other sources cannot cover. Courses for academic credit are not eligible for this grant but can be accessed through the University’s tuition waiver benefit. However, books and application expenses related to academic courses are now eligible for grant support.

Full or part-time permanent SHRA or EHRA non-faculty employees are eligible for this grant. We encourage applicants to seek funding from departmental and/or unit sources, if available, prior to submitting this application. Additionally, there are a number of sources of university forms and sources of support such as Educational Programs through Benefits, HR’s Training offerings, and the Janet B. Royster Memorial Staff Scholarship Fund. Please exhaust these other options before applying for the Professional Development Grant.

Application Criteria:

- Funding must be for individual benefit, relate to the employee’s position, and meet a professional development purpose (not departmental).
- Applicant may not have received a Professional Development Grant from the Employee Forum nor the Janet B. Royster staff scholarship from the Staff Assembly for the same or a different opportunity in the year prior to application.
- Applicant must include their supervisor’s name and email address. We do not need your supervisor’s approval and we will not contact your supervisor unless the Professional Development Grant account is audited.
- Individual grants will not exceed $500.
- Timely and complete application submission.

The application includes details about the opportunity, a budget of expenses, and answers to the three (3) following questions. (We recommend that you draft and save your answers in a Word document and then cut and paste the answers into the application when you are ready to submit it.)

1. Describe how this professional development opportunity will enhance or complement your current position.
2. Describe how this professional development opportunity is relevant to your career aspirations.
3. Please describe university activities in which you have been involved in the last 12 months outside of your typical job duties.
Please note: Professional Development Grants are no longer processed on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to ensure all university employees have an equal chance to apply for this funding opportunity, the Education and Career Development Committee will review and score applications based on applicant answers to the questions in the application.

**DUE TO UNIVERSITY RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO COVID-19, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS WILL NOT BE AWARDED DURING THE FALL 2020 APPLICATION CYCLE FOR TRAVEL OR OPPORTUNITIES THAT WOULD CONFLICT WITH CURRENT UNIVERSITY POLICIES.**

**Submission Guidelines:**
- Only complete submissions will be considered.
- Online application submissions are strongly preferred. If you are unable to submit online, please use the following alternative:
  - Email a PDF copy of the completed application to employeeforum@unc.edu.
- Applications will only be accepted during the submission period as noted below.

**Deadlines:**
For the current submission period,
- Applicants may apply for funds before or during the professional development opportunity.
- Applications will be taken within the submission period (April 15 – 30, 2021).
- Applications will be reviewed by the Education and Career Development Committee during the review period (May 1 – 16, 2021).
- Applicants will be notified several days after the close of the review period (May 19, 2021)
- All funds granted during this submission period must be spent between May 19 and November 30, 2021 and must be reimbursed by November 30, 2021.
- Applicants who are not selected during this submission period may reapply for funds in the next submission period.

SUBMISSION PERIOD:  April 15 – 30, 2021  
REVIEW PERIOD:  May 1- 16, 2021  
EXPECTED NOTIFICATION:  May 19, 2021  
FUNDING MUST BE REQUESTED FOR REIMBURSEMENT BY:  November 30, 2021

***If your professional development opportunity will occur after November 30, 2021, please do not apply in the current submission period. Instead, please apply for the next submission period. Additional details and specific deadlines about the next submission period will be shared on the website soon.***
Requirements for Reimbursement:

- Receipts must be emailed to (employeeforum@unc.edu) within five (5) business days after the event. If submitting close to the end of the fiscal year, receipts must be turned in no later than November 30, 2021. If reimbursement materials are not submitted by November 30, 2021, Professional Development Grant funds are forfeited.

For questions concerning the application process, contact the Employee Forum at employeeforum@unc.edu.
UNC-Chapel Hill Professional Development Grant Application

Personal Information

First Name: ________________________________________________________________

Middle Name: ________________________________________________________________

Last Name: ________________________________________________________________

Preferred Name (if different from above): _______________________________________

PID: ______________________________________________________________________

Position Title: __________________________________________________________________

Department Name: ______________________________________________________________

Department Number: ____________________________________________________________

UNC Email Address: ____________________________________________________________

Supervisor’s Name*: ____________________________________________________________

Supervisor’s UNC Email Address*: ________________________________________________

*We do not need your supervisor’s approval, and we will not contact your supervisor unless the Professional Development Grant is audited.

Have you received the Staff Assembly’s Janet B. Royster Scholarship in the last twelve (12) months? (Circle one) Yes No

Event Details

Name of Program/Event: _________________________________________________________

Travel Destination (if applicable): ________________________________________________

Beginning Date: _____________________________ Ending Date: _______________________

Budget Request

Total cost of professional development opportunity: $___________
Total requested from the Employee Forum Professional Development Grant: $___________

Application Questions

1. Describe how this professional development opportunity will enhance or complement your current position. (250 words maximum)

2. Describe how this professional development opportunity is relevant to your career aspirations. (250 words maximum)

3. Please describe university activities in which you have been involved in the last 12 months outside of your typical job duties. (250 words maximum)

I attest that everything included in the application is true and complete.

_____________________________________________________________________________
Signature                                    Date