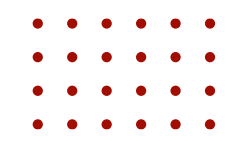
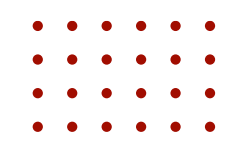




Keys to the TCUP Funding Strands



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UNITED TRIBES
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

NSF TCUP

...is an Institutional Capacity Building initiative.

NSF capacity building programs aim to enhance research capacity and competitiveness of individuals, institutions, and regions historically underserved by NSF funding.

Enhancing STEM instructional/research capacity and improving infrastructure.

TCUP's focus is on institutional transformation for STEM.



Key #1: Make the Program Officers' Job Easy



- don't make them squeeze your proposal to fit into NSF's or program requirements, show them how your ideas will build STEM capacity and will transform your institution.

Key #1A: *"Their goals are your goals!"*

TCUP Funding Strands (21-595)

- ICE-TI (Instructional Capacity Excellence in TCUP Institutions)
 - April 1, \$2.5M, 5y
- TSIP (Targeted STEM Infusion Projects)
 - April 1, \$500,000, 3y
- TEA Centers (TCUP Enterprise Advancement Centers)
 - June 1, \$3.5M, 5y, renewal
- TSETS (TCUP for Secondary & Elementary Teachers in STEM)
 - Sept 1, \$1.75M, 5y
- SGR (Small Grants for Research)
 - Jan 11, \$200K, 2y
- TCUP Partnerships
 - No deadline, Max \$5M, \$825K/inst (up to \$165K/inst/y)
- CHAI (Cyberinfrastructure Health, Assistance, and Improvements)
 - No deadline, \$250K, 1y
- Pre-TI (Preparing for TCUP Implementation)
 - No deadline, \$150K, 2y

TCUP SUPPORTS

- Capacity Building
 - STEM Degree Development
 - Infrastructure
 - Lab Renovations
 - STEM Faculty
 - Research
 - Planning
 - Partnerships & Transfers
- In-service Teacher Training
 - STEM Students
- Community STEM Programming
 - Cybersecurity
- Research/Grants Office Development

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

1. “I’d love to get a GeoScience AS degree going, but we’d need to hire a faculty to run it and renovate that old lab space.”

Answer:

A. ICE-TI

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

2. “Did you see that cyber attack at Blank U.? I hope our systems are better prepared!”

Answer:

G. CHAI

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

3. “We’re strong in water quality monitoring and the Tribe has asked for help in setting up protocols and research to get a handle on pollution.”

Answer:

C. TEA CENTERS

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

4. “I wish there was an easier way to link students to a more direct pathway to higher degrees or other degrees that we don’t offer.”

Answer:

F. TCUP Partnerships

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

5. “STEM in the local schools keeps getting pushed to the side and many of the teachers say they don’t have a STEM background.”

Answer:

D. TSETS

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

6. “Our AS Anthropology program needs a jumpstart. I’d love to try that course-based research initiative.”

Answer:

B. TSIP

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

7. “I’m interested in pursuing a research question in my field, but we don’t have funds my project right now.”

Answer:

E. SGR

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

8. “I don’t have enough information to even start writing a proposal.”

Answer:

H. Pre-TI

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

Matching Your Ideas with TCUP Strands

BONUS

9. “We’re ready to start a Secondary Science Teacher Education program. What strand would I choose?”

Answer:

A. ICE-TI

TCUP Strands

- A. ICE-TI
- B. TSIP
- C. TEA Centers
- D. TSETS
- E. SGR
- F. TCUP Partnerships
- G. CHAI
- H. Pre-TI (Planning)

TCUP Funding Strands Keys

- ✦ **ICE-TIs** and **TSIPs** are focused on building new academic programs or a specific program initiative. Focus on institutional development, with faculty being the unit of change.
- ✦ **TEA Centers** must have a central theme and build on existing capacity to work closely with a defined community. The strand is not for curriculum development.
- ✦ **TSETS** are for building STEM content knowledge within in-service teachers and requires Education faculty involvement.
- ✦ **SGRs** are individual investigator awards focused on faculty development, not on student research experiences or instruction. It's an investment in that faculty member.
- ✦ **TCUP Partnerships** are for academic agreements with multiple institutions. TCUP pays for TCUP colleges, another NSF division pays for non-TCUP participation.
- ✦ **CHAs** are infrastructure grants to support data and IT security/speed. Although you may purchase equipment, it is not an “equipment” grant and not for a new computer lab.

TCUP Funding Strands Keys

- 🔑 In general, focus on institutional and faculty development. Student support is allowed, but lasting impacts for the institution are through program development and faculty.
- 🔑 Request a meeting with the TCUP Program Officers to discuss ideas and share a concept outline with them.
- 🔑 Take advantage of TCUP Hub Technical Assistance!



NSF ATE (Advanced Technology Ed.) - NSF 24-584

- ATE focuses on education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation's economy. Emphasis on two-year colleges.
- **Requires:** Partnerships between academic institutions (grades 7-IHEs), industry, and an economic development agenda.
- Supports are for instructional capacity building.
- **Examples:** Electrical/Automated Vehicles, Drones, IT, Cybersecurity, Antibody Engineering, Supply-Chain Logistics, Welding, Marine Technology, Manufacturing, Nanotech...
- **Hawaii:** Mobile Controlled Environment/Ag Tech Education; Workforce for Water; Solar and Wind Innovation
- Deadlines in October – 4 tracks (1. Small projects, 2. ATE projects, 3. Centers, 4. Planning?)

ATE's Hub = ATE CENTRAL: <https://atecentral.net/home>

ATE Budget & Budget Justification Webinar May 2026: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgcrS419xPs>