REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

eLearning Innovation Grants Program

Guidelines for the Submission of eLearning Proposals · Fiscal Year 2026–2027

PROPOSALS DUE
December 7, 2026
4:30 p.m. Central

TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE
$40,000
Incl. Untapped Talent OER set-aside

Louisiana Board of Regents · On behalf of its eLearning Task Force
1201 N. Third St., Suite 6-200, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 · P.O. Box 3677, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3677
Phone (225) 342-4253 · Fax (225) 342-9318 or 6926 · www.laregents.edu

WHAT'S NEW

What's New for FY27

This RFP has been updated from the FY26 cycle to align with the Board of Regents' Master Plan 2030 attainment goal and to launch new funding priorities related to eLearning.

Sections with substantive changes are flagged throughout this document with a **NEW FOR FY27** badge.

SUMMARY OF FY27 CHANGES

→ **New** Funding Priority Examples:

- OER & eLearning for Justice-Involved Learners, aligned with the Board's Untapped Talent initiative.
- Supporting quality assurance and continuous improvement in online education through course design, faculty development, accessibility enhancements, or recognized quality frameworks, such as Quality Matters.

→ **Eligibility** expanded to recommend that proposals involving collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (DPSC) and corrections education providers should document that partnership.

→ **New** deliverable requirement: When OER course materials are deliverable(s) of the project, the materials must be deposited in the LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network OER repository for statewide reuse.

→ **New** review criterion: proposals serving corrections learners must specify an offline-capable, print-compatible delivery format.

→ **Clarified** allowable costs: instructional design time, OER adaptation/accessibility remediation, and print materials are allowable direct costs.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Important Notices

1. Inquiries about this RFP — Written inquiries about this Request for Proposals (RFP) will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Central, November 19, 2026. Inquiries about the eLearning Innovation Grants Program RFP should be directed to Melissa LaCour, melissalacour@lctcs.edu.

Availability of the RFP on the Internet

As part of the Board's ongoing effort to streamline RFPs, and to ensure that this document is as widely disseminated as possible, this RFP is available on the Internet at https://rsi.laregents.edu under the "Downloads" menu and "RFPs, Policies & Forms."

Proposal Submission Deadlines

Electronic proposal submissions are due on December 7, 2026 by 4:30 p.m. Central.

Proposal Submission

All Program proposals will be submitted through the Louisiana Online Grant Automation Network (LOGAN). This RFP excludes directions for submitting the proposal electronically. The applicant should print a copy of the submitted proposal for his/her own records. For help with electronic submission, e-mail rsi@laregents.edu.

OVERVIEW

Request for Proposals

Louisiana Board of Regents, on behalf of its eLearning Task Force

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Introduction and Purpose of the RFP

In 2019, the Board of Regents adopted its latest Master Plan for Higher Education in Louisiana, "Louisiana Prospers: Driving our Talent Imperative."

To move Louisiana aggressively forward, the Board of Regents has embraced a robust new attainment goal that calls for 60% of all working-age adults (ages 25–64) in Louisiana to hold a degree or high-value credential by 2030. This Master Plan, born of the Board of Regents' unique charge to guide postsecondary education across the state, sets the foundation to increase opportunity. The rapid development of educational technologies has also enabled a myriad of new formats and types of learning experiences, extending from massive open online courses (MOOCs) that enroll thousands but provide little or no student support, to fully personalized models of teaching and learning. Through the Board's eLearning Task Force, educational innovation of all kinds is supported across institutions, allowing faculty, administrators, and others to discover effective techniques for different learning styles and student populations. Continued, accelerated support of leading faculty innovators can build on this success, to improve student outcomes and cultivate new opportunities for student access and learning. Our Talent Imperative is to Educate, Innovate, and Collaborate. (Board of Regents Master Plan, 2019)

The Master Plan also identifies "all learning counts" and the reduction of cost barriers — including the cost of course materials — as key strategies for reaching the 2030 goal, and calls for expanding the pool of talent to be developed, including populations not traditionally served by higher education.

To accomplish this, eLearning must be a primary strategy to help the state expand access to public higher education and to assist the state in its efforts to increase enrollments and credential production. Therefore, the Board of Regents eLearning Task Force is actively soliciting eLearning Innovation Grants to support this effort.

PRIORITY FUNDING AREAS

Funding Areas for FY27 NEW FOR FY27

For FY27, the eLearning Innovation Grants Program funds proposals that support the Board of Regents 2030 goals.

Examples of Proposals

General eLearning Innovation

Open to all eligible institutions. Supports course and program innovation using educational technology to improve student outcomes, access, and completion, consistent with prior program cycles.

Quality Assurance & Continuous Improvement in Online Education NEW FOR FY27

This supports the development or adaptation of quality assurance and continuous improvement in online education through course design, faculty development, accessibility enhancements, or recognized quality frameworks, such as Quality Matters.

OER & eLearning for Justice-Involved Learners (Untapped Talent Aligned) NEW FOR FY27

This supports the development or adaptation of Open Educational Resources (OER) and eLearning materials designed for delivery to learners in Louisiana correctional facilities, in direct support of the Board of Regents' Untapped Talent initiative and its goal of ensuring returning citizens are restored, skilled, credentialed, and workforce-ready.

Proposals in this area should:

- Partner with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (DPSC) or an existing corrections education provider (e.g., a technical college with an active facility-based program).
- Develop or adapt OER course materials suitable for offline, print-compatible, or low-bandwidth delivery appropriate to correctional-facility technology constraints.
- Target courses or credentials that stack into workforce credentials or postsecondary pathways relevant to reentry employment.
- Deposit final OER materials, under Creative Commons license, into the LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network OER repository for use by any Louisiana public institution.

ELIGIBILITY & FUNDING

Eligibility

- Public institutions of higher education in Louisiana are eligible to submit proposals.
- Proposals may have a collaborative component defined (collaboration could be internal, i.e. across different departments, schools, or colleges at an institution; or external with another public or private institution in, or outside the state, K-12 school or system, or other organization).
- NEW FOR FY27 Collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections (DPSC) or a facility-based education provider, if applicable, must be documented in the proposal.
- Proposals must be of short-term design and must be concluded by June 15, 2027.
- Proposals should state agreement to share any resources created freely with the Board of Regents and its member colleges. All content created or repurposed is expected to be published under a Creative Commons license with some portions available in a digital and downloadable format, as applicable.
- NEW FOR FY27 Where applicable, proposals must deposit final OER course materials into the LOUIS OER repository as a condition of the award.
- Multiyear proposals and/or pilot proposals will be reviewed for funding. However, only the first year will be awarded through the eLearning Innovation Grants and the proposed project must be concluded by June 30, 2027.
- Grant awards will not be made for hardware or for hiring personnel, although release time or other approaches for providing support for needed personnel are acceptable (including requests for technical assistance).
- NEW FOR FY27 Allowable direct costs explicitly include instructional design time, OER adaptation and accessibility remediation, and printing of materials where offline/print delivery is required.
- Specific courses and/or programs developed within the eLearning Innovation Grants delivered electronically must be identified in the proposed project design.
- Funded Principal Investigators agree to participate in a Board of Regents eLearning Task Force sponsored event to disseminate project results.
- Institutions may not include indirect cost in the proposal.
- No institution may submit more than one application as a lead institution.
- Travel to professional conferences will not be funded.
- A priority will be placed on proposals that produce deliverables easily transferrable for use by other Louisiana public institutions. Please include information in the proposal regarding the expected value added by the results of the project.

Anticipated Awards NEW FOR FY27

The total of all grant awards will not exceed the total funding available, and the Regents are not obligated to expend all the dollars that have been set aside for this initiative. All awards are subject to the availability of funds.

TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE	AWARDS
$40,000	**Not to exceed $20,000**

TIMELINE & CONTACT

Project Term NEW FOR FY27

It is anticipated that the work covered by the RFP will begin January 1, 2027 and continue through June 15, 2027, with a final program report due June 30, 2027.

NEW FOR FY27 Projects requiring DPSC facility access may request a start date as late as February 1, 2027 in recognition of facility security-clearance and background-check timelines; the project end date and final report deadline remain unchanged.

It is critical that the expenditure of all available funds occur prior to the end of the fiscal year and year-end reporting processes.

Proposal Contact

Any questions or concerns regarding this RFP should be sent to:

Melissa LaCour

Louisiana Board of Regents eLearning Task Force Chair

Email: melissalacour@lctcs.edu

Proposal Review Process and Timeline NEW FOR FY27

- Proposals are due December 7, 2026.
- The grant cycle will be approximately January 1, 2027 – June 30, 2027.
- An external review team will read, score, and discuss all proposals, and make recommendations to the eLearning Task Force for which proposals should be funded.
- The external review team will be given some liberty to adjust budgets, particularly to reduce proposed expenditures for items not eligible.
- The eLearning Task Force will review and consider for approval the recommendations provided by the external review team.

- Upon action by the Task Force, committee chair will contact the lead institution, particularly when fund requests are reduced.

Nov. 12, 2026	Request for Proposals released
Dec. 7, 2026	Proposals due by 4:30 p.m. Central
Dec. 2026	Proposal review period
Dec. 2026 - Jan. 2027	Notification of awarded proposals

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

How to Submit a Proposal

Applicants are responsible for timely submissions of proposals. Proposals become property of the Regents. Only proposals containing all the required elements will be reviewed and considered for funding.

Proposals are to be submitted using LOGAN: Louisiana Online Grant Automation Network — https://rsi.laregents.edu/logan/index.pl

Note that the proposal submission process includes two steps: submission by the PI to the campus, and campus approval with submission to the Board of Regents; a proposal cannot be accepted by the Board until both steps are completed. Because institutional approval is granted by the submission of the proposal to the Board through each institution's Office of Sponsored Programs/Research, signatures are not required, and it is not necessary to submit a paper original or copy. Submission deadlines are absolute; all campus work on the proposal, including final approval and submission to the Board of Regents by the designated campus office, must be completed on or before the deadline date and time. The online submission module is programmed to close at the deadline cited in this RFP.

Proposals must include the following elements: NEW FOR FY27

- The proposal must include the personnel page, biographical sketch, project summary, project narrative, budget, budget justification, and timeline. Additional documentation is limited to no more than three pages.
  - A personnel page to include name, position in contract, email, and employing institution.
  - A biographical sketch (template provided in LOGAN).
  - The project summary must not exceed one page in length.
  - Project narrative must contain detailed information about the proposal and include a clearly stated "need" for the project and evaluation metrics by which outcomes are reported and success is measured. (Limited to no more than 5 pages.)

- Project budget (template provided in LOGAN).
- A budget justification should document how the budget will be expended including any in-kind contributions from the institution.
- Project timeline will include proposed activities and estimated timeline for completion including any data reporting.
- Additional documentation may include letters of support or additional visuals and should be limited to no more than three pages. Web and video links may not be reviewed.
- Font — Times New Roman or Arial, 10-point minimum, double-spaced.
- Grant Cycle: January 1, 2027 through June 15, 2027; start date may extend to February 1, 2027 if needed. Final program reports due June 30, 2027.
- **NEW FOR FY27** Where applicable, awardees must deposit final OER materials into the LOUIS OER repository prior to final report acceptance.

RFP DEADLINE

No later than 4:30 p.m. Central, December 7, 2026