TIAA Institute Request for Research Proposals

Due: November 9, 2026, 5 p.m. ET

The TIAA Institute Grants Program is accepting cutting-edge research proposals focused on **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Technological Change**. We have a strong interest in **AI's impact** on **1) Financial Security and Retirement, 2) Higher Education, 3) Health and Social Wellbeing in later life.** We have interest in the following research topics but encourage proposals relevant to this broad area.

Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Technological Change on:

1. **Financial Security and Retirement**
   - Individual use of prediction markets
   - Investment behavior and portfolios
   - Financial advice
   - Labor force disruptions or adaptations
   - Savings or spending behavior

2. **Higher Education**
   - Workforce trends
   - Higher Ed business models
   - Demand for Higher Education
   - Delivery of education by institutions

3. **Health and Social Wellbeing in later life**
   - Health and wealth
   - Caregiving or caregivers
   - Social wellbeing
   - Healthcare financing
   - Longevity

Eligibility

Any faculty member with an active appointment at a U.S. college or university is eligible to submit a proposal, as are researchers with appointments at public policy research organizations. Junior faculty members are encouraged to apply. We are open to any methodology as appropriate, including empirical, theorical, experimental, or qualitative methods.

How to Apply

Submit the following materials as a single file in an e-mail to Brent Davis at Brent.Davis@tiaa.org. The submission deadline is November 9, 2026, 5:00 p.m. ET.

1. Cover page with proposal title, primary investigator names(s), and full contact information
2. Abstract (150 words)

3. Statement on the how the research would be practically relevant to its target audience (150 words)
4. Proposal narrative (3-5 pages) a. Project motivation, significance and goals
5. Research question(s)
6. Methodology (i.e., analytical framework, data sources, sensitivity analysis)
7. Conclusions
8. Academic or practitioner publications where you might submit the research
9. Academic or practitioner conferences where the research could be presented
10. List of references cited in the narrative (not part of page count)
11. Timeline for deliverables (see below)
12. Complete resumes/CV's of the primary investigator(s)
13. Budget that itemizes costs for at least the following:
    a. Personnel, including salary and benefits for the principal investigator(s) and any other investigators or research assistants (each separately itemized).
    b. Additional research-related expenses, including the itemized costs.

Note: This grant program funds direct research costs only; overhead and indirect costs are not funded. A maximum of $75,000 will be allocated per selected proposal.

Deliverables

- Technical report, analogous to an academic working paper, that is suitable for publication as a TIAA Institute *Research Dialogue* on the Institute's web site.
- Non-technical paper in the 2,000-3,000 word range that summarizes the motivation for the research, key findings, and implications of the findings.
- Executive summary (no longer than 300 words) outlining the key findings and implications of the research in plain English.
- Bulleted list of three to five key takeaways.
- Deliverables must be submitted in MS Word, with tables/charts in MS Excel.
- Up to two oral presentations of the research if requested by the TIAA Institute. Resulting travel-related expenses will be paid by the TIAA Institute.

Timeline

- Delivery of final reports is expected one year from start date of the grant.
- Progress report to be submitted six months from date of grant.

Terms and Conditions for Grant Recipients

- Acknowledge the TIAA Institute's grant support on papers and presentations stemming from the funded research. Please use the statement below:

  "The project described received funding from the TIAA Institute. The content is solely the responsibility of the author(s) and does not necessarily represent the views of TIAA or the TIAA Institute."

- Comply with IRB and human subject requirements at the researcher's home institution.
- Execute a grant agreement with the TIAA Institute.

Questions

Please contact Dr. Brent Davis with any questions (Brent.Davis@tiaa.org)