Trevor Colbourn Anthropology Endowment Fund Committee Call for Proposals
October 30, 2026

The Trevor Colbourn Anthropology Endowment Fund (TCAEF) Committee is pleased to announce a call for proposals from graduate students within the Department of Anthropology at the University of Central Florida (UCF). Funding for research related activities, up to $1,500 for doctoral students and $500 for master's students (based on available funding), is available for use by awardees between March 1, 2027, and January 31, 2028.

Completed proposals must be received by both the TCAEF Committee Chair (melina.sherman@ucf.edu) and anthrograduate@ucf.edu by **12:00 PM on January 29, 2027,** to be considered for funding. Late proposals will not be accepted or reviewed. Incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding. A detailed list of what constitutes a completed proposal can be found below.

The TCAEF is an endowed fund generously created by an anonymous donor to fund research related activities by graduate students in the Department of Anthropology at UCF that promote the global engagement of UCF. The founding donor is particularly interested in student research related activities in Latin America (Central American, South America, and the Caribbean), but proposals will be accepted from, and awards will be given to, graduate students engaged in research related activities in all areas of the world and in any anthropology sub-discipline. Research related activities include but are not limited to: 1) field research, 2) skill training, 3) research participant incentives, 4) data collection and processing, 5) sample collection and processing, and/or 6) analysis of results. The TCAEF Committee will not fund salaries, stipends, UCF tuition, UCF tuition-associated fees for students or family members, or conference travel. For conference travel, students are encouraged to apply to College of Science and University funding programs designed specifically to support student travel for research dissemination. The committee will consider travel and living expenses related to formal programs for language or skill acquisition (including language training, field schools, or specialized training programs) for the individual applicant. The committee reserves the right to reduce funding awards below the amounts requested by each awardee. Funding decisions are final and are anticipated to be announced by the end of February 2027. Graduate students are allowed to apply for awards from the TCAEF in multiple years, but previous years of TCAEF funding will be considered by the committee in making their funding decisions each year. The TCAEF committee will base final award decisions on the merits of each proposal (including the justification of the budgetary expenses), the level of the graduate student, the presence or absence of previous TCAEF awards to the graduate student, and how the graduate student's proposed project promotes UCF's engagement with the world. Previous award winners who are applying for another TCAEF award must have submitted the final report(s) from previous cycles to be considered for funding in this cycle.

A completed proposal will consist of a single combined document in PDF format and include the following:

1. **A cover sheet that includes EACH of the following elements:**
   a) A project title.
   b) The location(s) and dates of the project (all project dates must fall between March 1, 2027, and January 31, 2028).
   c) Total amount requested from the TCAEF.
   d) A statement of the number of prior years of TCAEF funding the student has received and written confirmation (e.g. a copy of an email) from the Graduate Staff that the final report(s) from any TCAEF awards in previous cycle(s) has/have been submitted.

2. **A narrative of 500-600 words describing the research project for which the funding is requested and includes EACH of the following:**
   a) A clear statement of purpose describing how the proposed funding will advance thesis or dissertation research.
   b) A clear statement describing the student's specific role in the research. Is this individual research, or is the student part of a team? If this is teamwork, who else is involved (graduate committee advisor, etc.), and how does your research fit into the larger project? List all collaborators and/or institutions involved in the proposed project.
   c) A brief statement of how the project intersects with the student's long-term research and

career plans.

d) A brief statement about the project's intellectual merit and broader significance to the UCF community
e) Additional pages of figures and illustrations (if any) are not included in the 500-600 word count.
f) A bibliography of references (if any) is not included in the 500-600 word count.

3. **An appendix that includes EACH of the following (the appendix does NOT count towards your 500-600 word count in section 2 above):**
   a) A detailed budget for allocation of TCAEF award funds ONLY. **Do not include items that will be covered by sources other than your TCAEF award.** Include estimated costs in dollars with supporting documentation from anticipated supplier or vendor (e.g., airfare options, lodging, trip mileage via Google Maps, per-sample price from proposed lab, appropriate per diem based on travel destination). Currency conversions must be calculated in Oanda and included in the budget. Equipment or non-consumable supplies purchased will remain property of the department and must be returned.
   b) If your project is funded by sources in addition to the TCAEF award (e.g. personal funds, NSF or other grants, funds or resources from your faculty advisor, etc.) then **list these other sources of support and indicate if support has been secured or is still pending.**
   c) A detailed justification explaining how each item in the TCAEF proposal budget relates to the project goals.
   d) A statement indicating whether IRB approval will be required, with a timeline for securing such permissions.
   e) A statement describing any additional mandatory external permissions required to execute the research (e.g. government permits, museum permissions, etc.), with a timeline for securing such permissions.

4. **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Include any relevant presentations, publications, awards, grants, or other academic achievements. Please note that the presence of these items may vary depending on a student's stage of academic progress and career development. Applicants will not be disadvantaged for not having such experiences.

5. **The student's primary faculty advisor will complete a review of the proposal and attach the TCAEF Advisor Certification Form stating they have reviewed and approve the attached proposal.**

Any questions on this call for proposals may be directed to anthrograduate@ucf.edu.

All graduate students receiving TCAEF awards must comply with all post-award management policies of the TCAEF Committee, the Department of Anthropology, College of Sciences, and the University of Central Florida. This includes attending a mandatory meeting following their award notification and mandatory training completed by March 1, 2027. Additionally, if necessary, students must submit any protocol or budgetary modification requests to the TCAEF Committee Chair, return any unspent amounts of an award and/or receiving reimbursement for approved purchases during reconciliation, and submitting detailed final reports, and in some cases interim reports, on the project and budgetary expenditures.

Questions regarding the post-award management policies may be directed to anthrograduate@ucf.edu.