CSUN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

CSM Forward:
Teaching and Instructional Innovation Support

Faculty Application Form | 2026–27 Call for Applications

Purpose

The *CSM Forward* Teaching and Instructional Innovation Support program is funded by the CSUN University Priority Investment Initiative. It is intended to support faculty-led work that expands student educational and career opportunities and strengthens teaching and learning across the College of Science and Mathematics.

Applicants may apply for one of two tracks described below.

TRACK 1 CSM Career Connections Advisory Board	TRACK 2 Teaching and Instructional Innovation
Three units of reassigned time per semester beginning Spring 2027, for a one-year appointment, to develop internship opportunities and processes and to work with industry and alumni leaders as a College of Science and Mathematics Career Connections Advisory Board member. One board member from each academic department anticipated.	$5,000 Summer 2027 Special Pay to redesign an existing course or propose a new course that integrates instructional innovation, including approaches such as AI and hands-on experiential learning. The number of awards is dependent upon funding, but 6-10 awards is the anticipated range.

Application timeline

Call opens	Nov. 5, 2026
Applications due	Nov. 13, 2026, 5pm
Review and notification	By Nov. 30 2026
Award period	Track 1: Spring 2027–Fall 2028 | Track 2: Summer 2027

Who may apply

Faculty members in the College of Science and Mathematics are invited to apply. Tenured, Tenure-Track, and Part-time Faculty holding a three-year appointment are eligible; FERP, emeritus, adjunct and Part-time faculty with less than a three-year appointment are not eligible. Applicants should select one track and submit the materials listed for that track. If applying to both tracks, submit a separate application for each track.

How to apply

Submit this completed form together with a one-page cover letter as a single PDF via email to <dave.gray@csun.edu> by 5 pm November 13, 2026. Use the subject line: CSM Forward Grant Application – Track [1 or 2] – [Applicant Name].

Questions may be directed to dave.gray@csun.edu.

Faculty Application Form

Complete the fields below and attach the required one-page cover letter for the track selected. Please keep the cover letter to one page.

Applicant information

Applicant name	
Department or program	
Academic rank or faculty appointment	
Email and phone	
Track requested	☐ Track 1 ☐ Track 2

Applicant acknowledgment

I certify that the information in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that the selected work will be carried out during the award period and that any changes to the proposed work or appointment may require prior approval.

Applicant signature _____

Date _____

Track 1 Application

College of Science and Mathematics Career Connections Advisory Board

Award description

Track 1 provides three units of reassigned time per semester beginning in Spring 2027. The initial appointment is for two semesters. Faculty selected for this track will serve on a committee focused on developing internship opportunities and related processes for students in the College of Science and Mathematics and will work with industry and alumni leaders as a College of Science and Mathematics Career Connections Advisory Board member.

Expected activities

- Collaborate with college leadership, departments, programs, students, and relevant campus offices to identify and strengthen internship pathways.
- Help develop clear, equitable, and scalable processes for identifying, preparing for, placing, and supporting students in internships.
- Engage industry partners and alumni leaders to understand workforce needs and expand student opportunity.
- Communicate those opportunities and identified needs to relevant departments, curriculum committees, and the college as a whole.
- Participate in assessment, documentation, and communication of progress and outcomes.

Required application materials

Attach a one-page cover letter that states your interest in Track 1 and describes relevant experience working with one or more of the following:

☐ Industry relations or employer engagement

☐ Internship development, coordination, advising, or assessment

☐ Alumni outreach or alumni engagement

☐ Student opportunity programs, career readiness, or experiential learning

☐ Collaborative committee or cross-unit initiative work

Track 2 Application

Teaching and Instructional Innovation

Award description

Track 2 provides Summer 2027 Special Pay to redesign an existing course or propose a new course in ways that integrate instructional innovation. Innovation may include but is not limited to integration of artificial intelligence application, workflow, ethics; active and/or project-based learning; peer-learning communities; or other approaches that strengthen student learning and engagement.

Required application materials

Attach a one-page cover letter that outlines the proposed course work and addresses each item below. Applications may be for an existing course redesign or a new course proposal.

☐ Course number, title, department or program, and whether the proposal is for a redesign or a new course.

☐ The instructional innovation(s) to be integrated and the problem, opportunity, or learning goal they address.

☐ The number and type of students impacted, for example GE, service, major, or non-major students, Math Category III and IV, and the approximate number enrolled or anticipated per semester.

☐ The specific changes to course design, learning activities, assignments, assessment, or student experience that would result.

☐ The anticipated timeline for the Summer 2027 work and the semester in which the revised or new course would be offered.

☐ How the work could be assessed, shared, or sustained after the award period.