Tufts Full-time Faculty Professional Development Fund

In September 2019, the bargaining committee of the Tufts full-time faculty signed the second union contract with the administration. Among its provisions, the contract established a Professional Development Fund (PDF) of $15,000 per semester, to reimburse faculty for educational and professional development expenses of up to $1,300 per faculty member in a two (2)-fiscal-year (7/1-6/30) period starting with FY19-20. At the end of the first year of a given two (2)-fiscal-year period, up to $650 below this two (2)-year cap that remains unused by a full-time faculty member will roll over into the next fiscal year. (In effect, a faculty member may use up to $650 from a subsequent fiscal year in addition to any funds remaining unused in the current fiscal year. However, the use of funds is not retroactive; that is, if no funds are used in a fiscal year, the faculty member cannot dip back into a prior fiscal year since that pool of money will have already been allocated.)

Professional Development Fund allocations not used in the Fall semester roll over to the next Spring semester; however, these funds will not roll over from one fiscal year to the next.

The following are examples for how funds could be distributed across fiscal years:

**Scenario 1:**
Year 1: $300
Year 2: you request $1300 (Year 1 in the 2-year fiscal year clock)
Year 3: you are not eligible for any funds (Year 2 in the 2-year fiscal year clock)
Year 4: your new 2-year clock could restart

**Scenario 2:**
Year 1: $1300 (Year 1 in the 2-year fiscal year clock)
Year 2: you are not eligible for any funds (Year 2 in the 2-year fiscal year clock)
Year 3: your new 2-year clock could restart

**Senior Lecturers**
Senior Lecturers are entitled to an individual $750 in professional development money per year consistent with the provisions of the Promotion Article in the FT CBA; these funds are separate from the PDF. Senior lecturers do not need to apply to use these funds. They are automatically deposited into their professional development account (please contact your department/program administrator if you need help accessing your account). Only if a Senior Lecturer wishes to receive additional funding beyond his/her yearly $750, then he/she can apply for up to $1,300 to the appropriate academic dean using this application. **Additional funding will only be approved if the Senior Lecturer’s $750 in funding has already been exhausted or demonstrably committed for an upcoming expense.**

**Eligible Activities and Expenses**
The activities, expenses, and material resources listed below are eligible to be reimbursed or paid for through the Fund. A past activity or expense must have occurred within 6 months of the date of application and within the fiscal year. A future activity or purchase must occur within 6 months after the date of application but within the fiscal year. All receipts need to be submitted prior to fiscal year-end deadlines for processing expenses of the applicable fiscal year (i.e., the year in which the request was made). **All applications must be submitted by June 23 of any given fiscal year and all receipts must be submitted prior to June 30 of any given fiscal year.** When applying for the Fund, full-time faculty members must indicate how the activity, purchase, or material resource a) relates to the courses they teach at Tufts, b) enhances their pedagogy, and c) contributes to their professional development.
Conference – any portion of the registration, travel, or accommodation.

Workshop, training session.

Course taken for continuing education – support toward tuition and books purchased for the course.

Books purchased for curriculum development and teaching of courses by the full-time faculty.

Professional association dues

Journal subscription related to the faculty's teaching that is not available through Tisch Library.

Curriculum-driven teaching aids

Hardware and software beyond what is already provided by your Department/Program – laptops, tablets, recording devices, graphic software, other specialized software, directly used for curriculum development and teaching (see additional information and process for purchasing laptops/tablets on p. 3). Mobile phone and mobile phone services purchases are not allowed per school and university guidelines (see AS&E Faculty Handbook).

Other equipment – musical instruments, mats, screens, fabrics, art supplies, and specialized furnishings not otherwise provided by the department/program or university.

Archival documentation – the hiring of people to videotape, photograph or otherwise record classes, performances, workshops, exhibits, experiments, and other teaching events.

Civic engagement – activities that enhance faculty’s pedagogy and student learning outcomes by engaging students in civic and social issues, community-based projects, and community-based events.

Application Process

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Fill out the one-page application form (just that page) on p. 6.

Email your application form (just that page) to:

- The Academic Dean for your department/program – either Sam Thomas (sam.thomas@tufts.edu), Nate Harrison (nate.harrison@tufts.edu), Bárbara M. Brizuela (barbara.brizuela@tufts.edu), or Robert Cook (robert.cook@tufts.edu) (see list of deans, departments, programs, and department/program administrators on p. 2)
- Union representatives on the Union-University committee: Matthew Harrington, Senior Lecturer, Classics (matthew.harrington@tufts.edu) and Sheriden Thomas, Senior Lecturer, Theatre, Dance, & Performance Studies (sheriden.thomas@tufts.edu)
- and copy your department/program administrator, your department chair/program director, and Aya Ross in the A&S Dean’s Office (aya.ross@tufts.edu). If you are an SMFA faculty member also cc Kenson Truong (kenson.truong@tufts.edu)

Write in the subject line: FULL-TIME Professional Development Fund Application.

You will be notified within a week of your application whether it has been approved or not. You may be contacted by email if additional information is needed.

List of Arts & Sciences Academic Deans, Departments, Programs, and Department/Program Administrators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dean</th>
<th>Department or Program</th>
<th>Administrator</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bárbara M. Brizuela</td>
<td>Department or Program</td>
<td>Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Thomas</td>
<td>Department or Program</td>
<td>Administrator</td>
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Paying for the Approved Activity or Purchase

Once your application has been approved (via email from the Dean), there are three options available to pay for the activity or purchase:

PREFERRED:
1. Use your Tufts-issued Corporate Purchase and Travel card to pay for up to $1,300 of the expenses, and then reconcile the expenses as usual through Apptricity e-Expense – using Aya Ross (aya.ross@tufts.edu) in the Dean’s office as the Ad Hoc approver;
2. Have your Department/Program Administrator pay for the purchase using the departmental Tufts-issued Corporate Purchase and Travel card. They will then need to reconcile the expenses;

IF THE ABOVE TWO OPTIONS ARE NOT AVAILABLE:
3. Pay for the activity or purchase with your own funds and file a reimbursement claim using the process detailed below.

*Note that computer purchases have the option of TTS purchasing the computer and then requiring you to write a check for the balance to the Trustees of Tufts College.

Reimbursement of Private Payment

As soon after the outlay as practical, create an expense report on the e-expense system Apptricity, with Aya Ross added as an ad hoc approver. Make sure your receipts are attached to the expense report. Remember that all receipts need to be submitted prior to June 30. If you need assistance, your department/program administrator should be able to help you with Apptricity.

Reimbursement will be in the form of an automatic deposit into your bank account (the same account where your paycheck is deposited).

Expect two weeks between submitting your receipt(s) and getting reimbursed.
Process for purchasing a laptop, desktop, or tablet
- Contact Tufts Technology Services (TTS) at it@tufts.edu or 617-627-3376. Explain what you are looking for and what you will be using it for.
- Choose whether you want TTS to buy the device for you through your department/program (option 1), or whether you want to buy your own on the market (option 2).
- Professional Development Funds may not be used to purchase mobile phones or mobile phone service.

Computer Purchases with the PDF
The department of each member of the Tufts faculty is responsible for providing a fully-functional and responsibilities-appropriate desktop or laptop computer up to a limit (for 2020-2021 the limit is $2,000). The University reserves the right to modify this limit in its discretion at any time. Any expenses over this limit will need to be negotiated between the faculty member and the department and will depend on a department's funding availability. This computer will be replaced, if desired and needed, every four years through the normal replacement process and serviced by TTS as appropriate. The University reserves the right to modify this time period in its discretion at any time. If you are in need of a desktop or laptop computer to fit your pedagogical needs please first speak with your department chair or program director about a replacement. If you are not due for an upgraded computer or your department is not able to provide a desktop or laptop computer that fits your pedagogical needs, then you can apply to the Professional Development Fund. If your computer is broken your department should replace it. Please state the reason(s) given by your department why a replacement computer cannot be provided.

Option 1. Tufts-issued device
1. If you want TTS to purchase the device for you, they will recommend the best product for your intended uses among Apple, Dell, and Lenovo devices, which are the reliable brands that Tufts purchases from vendors. The cost will range between $1,100 and $2,500, depending on the device.
2. Once you have settled on a specific device, submit a PDF Application as detailed above.
3. Once your application is approved, notify your Department/Program Administrator that TTS will make the purchase and they will work with Tony Luongo (anthony.luongo@tufts.edu) to initiate the purchase.
4. You will need to write a check to the Trustees of Tufts College for the difference between $1,300 and the total cost of the device, if applicable, and submit that check to your Department/Program Administrator.
5. You are all set. TTS will purchase the device and set it up for you. The turnaround time between your request to TTS and getting the device will range, depending on the type of device, from a week (standard Dell laptops that TTS has in stock) to over a month (Apple laptops).

Option 2. Personal device
1. If you want to purchase your own device directly, TTS can still recommend the best product for your intended uses. You may want to take their advice. This is less necessary for iPads and Mini iPads, but could be useful for other types of tablets.
2. Submit a PDF Application as detailed above, to be approved either for a recent (past 6 months) or future (next 6 months, but within the fiscal year) purchase of a device.
3. Once your application is approved, and if for a future purchase, purchase the device at a store or online (Micro Center in Cambridge is a good place, with well-informed staff). If at a store, ask for both a printed and emailed receipt.

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4. As soon as possible work with your department/program administrator to create an expense report on Aptricity, with Aya Ross as ad hoc approver. **Make sure all receipts are attached. Remember the June 30 deadline for all receipts.**

5. You will be refunded up to $1,300 for your purchase, through a direct deposit to the same bank account where you get your compensation deposits. The turnaround time between your purchase and getting your reimbursement will be approximately two weeks.

6. If needed, TTS will set up your personal device with connections to Tufts services, connect your device to printers, add anti-virus and other software, and configure your email. Most lecturers can do this on their own, but this could be useful if it is your first device.

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CONTRACT LANGUAGE

Copied below is the section of the full-time lecturers’ union contract that describes the Professional Development Fund. The full text of the contract can be found at: http://as.tufts.edu/documents/fullTimeLecturersCBA.pdf

ARTICLE 17 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Section 1. The University shall create a Professional Development Fund through which a lecturer may apply for reimbursement for professional development opportunities or resources related to his/her scholarship, artistic or professional practice that will contribute to the improvement of teaching.

Section 2. The University shall contribute fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00) each semester to such a fund beginning on July 1, 2019.

Section 3. Funds not used in the Fall semester may be rolled over to the next Spring semester. However, these funds will not roll over from one fiscal year to the next.

Section 4. In order to receive funding, the eligible faculty member shall submit a request stating the expenses for which he/she is requesting reimbursement and indicate how the opportunity or resource will enhance his/her pedagogy.

Section 5. Request for funds shall be submitted to a joint Union-University committee composed of two lecturers designated by the Union and the two Deans of Academic Affairs in Arts and Sciences. The Union-University committee shall review applications on a first-come first-served basis and will make final decisions on all applications.

Section 6. Each Faculty Member may be approved to receive up to one thousand three hundred dollars ($1,300) in a two (2)-fiscal-year period. At the end of the first year of a given two (2)-fiscal-year period, any amount below this two (2)-year cap that remains unused by a Faculty Member will roll over into the next fiscal year.

Section 7. Denial of a request for professional development funds shall not be grievable.

Section 8. Senior/Master lecturers are entitled to additional professional development money consistent with the provisions of the Promotion Article.
Tufts Full-time Faculty Professional Development Fund Application Form

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS

Name: ___________________________________________  Date: ____________________

Department/Program: ______________________________  Rank: ___________________

Email address: ______________________________________

1. Please describe the eligible activity, event, purchase or expense:

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

2. Total Cost: ________________________  Total Funding Request: ______________________

* Not to exceed $1,300 in a 2-year period starting 7/1/2019. One application can be submitted for the total, or several activities/expenses can be combined into a one-time application totaling $1,300, or separate applications can be submitted at different times, for different activities, up to a total of $1,300 within two (2) fiscal years.

**This form is not to be used by Senior Lecturers who want to use the $750 in their professional development account.

3. If you are a Senior Lecturer please confirm that you have already exhausted your $750 allocation for this fiscal year: YES ☐

4. Please note any PDF reimbursements received within the last two (2) fiscal year cycles (starting 7/1/19):

____________________________________________________________________________________

5. Date of activity or purchase: _____________________________

*Actual or proposed within 6 months before or after the application date but before the end of the current fiscal year.

6. Please describe how this activity or purchase relates to the course(s) you teach at Tufts, enhances your pedagogy, and/or contributes to your professional development.

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

7. Email your application (with attached documentation of projected expenses or receipts if you have them):
   • to the Academic Dean of your department or program (see list on p. 2) - either Sam Thomas sam.thomas@tufts.edu, Nate Harrison nate.harrison@tufts.edu, Bárbara M. Brizuela barbara.brizuela@tufts.edu, or Robert Cook robert.cook@tufts.edu
   • to union representatives Matthew Harrington matthew.harrington@tufts.edu and Sheriden Thomas sheriden.thomas@tufts.edu
   • for SMFA: Kenson.Truong@tufts.edu AND Aya.Ross@tufts.edu
   for all other A&S departments/programs: Aya.Ross@tufts.edu

Write in the email subject line: FULL-TIME Professional Development Fund Application