



Real Estate Education Grants Program: 2026 Application Guidelines

Overview

The Foundation for California Community Colleges (FoundationCCC) administers the Real Estate Education Grants Program on behalf of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office with funds provided through the Real Estate Education Endowment. The grants program supports projects at California community colleges that promote, enhance, or advance the proficiency of real estate practitioners through real estate courses provided by California community colleges, in alignment with the priority needs of the field.

Since 1975, annual grants have typically been awarded to a community college hosting the Real Estate Education Center. The Center has been transferred between colleges if a new grantee is selected through a competitive process. Since 2016, Saddleback College has been the recipient of the grant and host of the Center. The Real Estate Education Center actively promotes quality real estate education in California's community colleges. The Center works with instructors to ensure quality instruction and actively encourages and supports students seeking vocational real estate and appraisal education.

The 2026 Application Guidelines aim to address emerging conditions and priorities in the field of real estate education. Applications for funding may support a Real Estate Education Center or another project that meets the program's goals.

Community college districts, community college foundations, community college auxiliaries, and community colleges in California are invited to submit a proposal for consideration through FoundationCCC's online portal, [Submittable](#), which will serve as a centralized location for applicants to access grant information, including the Application Guidelines and future reporting templates.

Grant Opportunity

The Real Estate Education Grants Program provides funding to support projects that promote, enhance, or advance the proficiency of real estate practitioners through real estate courses provided by California community colleges, in alignment with the priority needs of the field. We anticipate awarding up to \$105,000 in total grant funds in 2026.

Eligible applicants must submit an application by May 8, 2026 at 11:59PM, through our online portal [Submittable](#). Only one proposal per applicant may be submitted.



Background

The California Community College Real Estate Education Endowment provides financial support to enhance real estate education in the California Community Colleges. The goal of this program is to advance the professionalization of the real estate field by increasing the proficiency of real estate practitioners through education at California community colleges.

The Real Estate Education Endowment is a permanent fund established by the State of California Real Estate Commissioner in 1975. For over 35 years, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office managed the fund and executed all necessary activities in coordination with a Real Estate Advisory Board and the Department of Real Estate. FoundationCCC took over administrative responsibilities of the Endowment in July of 2015 and oversees its management, investments, and disbursements.

Criteria

Proposed projects must align with the grant program's purpose to promote, enhance, or advance the proficiency of real estate practitioners through real estate courses provided by California community colleges, in alignment with the priority needs of the field.

Activities may include, but need not be limited to, the following:

- Development of innovative programs, processes or products designed to enrich the effectiveness of real estate education
- Encouragement of real estate education articulation related to cooperative and coordination activities entered into by one community college district with other institutions of higher education
- Development and improvement of communications between the real estate industry and the community colleges
- Promotion of the real estate education programs

The most competitive projects will:

- Provide clear evidence of the need for the project and how the project is designed to meet that need
- Incorporate or build collaborative partnerships, which may include academic-practice partnerships, as appropriate
- Demonstrate capacity for successful implementation
- Leverage additional funding or other resources
- Offer potential to be replicated or scaled

Applicants are highly encouraged to propose projects that address or incorporate the goals and objectives of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office [Vision 2030](#).



Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be a community college district, community college foundation, community college auxiliary, or community college.

Award Information

- We expect to award a total of up to \$105,000. Applicants are advised to request an amount that makes sense for their project's proposed scope of work.
- The grant term is expected to begin on July 1, 2026 and will be for a duration of up to 12 months. Subsequent grant terms and renewals may be longer, based on project progress and reporting.
- Allowable costs include project-related staff time, meetings, travel, materials, equipment, and subcontractors. Funding should be used to augment but not replace existing financial resources.
- Indirect costs are allowable up to a maximum of 15% of direct costs.
- FoundationCCC may award part or all of a proposed project and budget. If awarded partial funding, the applicant will be notified in advance of an award to ensure project viability at the reduced level.

Timeline

Grant opportunity announcement:	April 6, 2026
Deadline to submit questions:	April 10, 2026
Answers posted to website:	April 17, 2026
Proposal deadline:	May 8, 2026
Approximate award announcement:	June 2026
Approximate date funds available:	July 2026

Questions and Answers

Do you have questions about this funding opportunity? Submit questions [here](#), or email questions to advancement@foundationccc.org. In the subject line, reference "2026 Real Estate Education Grants." The cutoff date for questions is April 10, 2026. Answers will be posted to the website by April 17, 2026, so that all applicants can benefit from the information.

Do you have technical questions about Submittable, the online portal? Send a message via the Submittable help center [here](#), by clicking the pop-up in the bottom right of the browser window, or contacting Submittable [here](#).