

2026 Teaching and Learning Seed Funding

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Teaching and Learning Seed Funding projects are intended to provide an incentive and resource to enable our university educators to innovate in their learning and teaching for the benefit of student success and the sharing of good practice within the wider academic community. These investments will provide seed funding for innovative learning, teaching and assessment initiatives and scholarship activities that may lead to publication. In 2026 the seed funding application is connected to the June Showcase, with an aim to provide wraparound support to promote the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning to a wider audience beyond the University of Newcastle. Those interested in the seed funding projects can apply through this form and the tEN June Showcase via the call for presentations, where their application will be considered for both the showcase and seed funding. A panel will select the successful applicants after the showcase.

The Education Network (tEN) and the Pro Vice-Chancellor Education Innovation are pleased to offer **four** Teaching and Learning Seed Funding projects worth up to \$1,250 each.

Format

Applicants should complete the **application form** (including an outline of the proposed initiative), and address the following:

- **Learning and Teaching Initiative**
Applications should clearly state the Learning and Teaching problem/challenge to be addressed and articulate the scope of this problem/challenge.
- **Proposed Change to Current Practice**
Applications should clearly state the anticipated benefits to Learning and Teaching and draw upon available evidence to support the proposed change to current practice.
- **Method/Approach**
Applications should describe the activities/research that will be undertaken to address the problem/challenge, drawing upon available evidence to justify the chosen methods where necessary.
- **Evaluation and Return on Investment**
Applications should indicate the **anticipated impact** of this project by providing details of the evaluation approach. Please include how many students should be positively impacted in the future through this project and its outcomes. Consider how might the project change teaching and learning practice. e.g. What is the potential for the outcomes of this project to be shared across or be used by other schools and faculties.
- **Alignment with the Strategic Plan**
Applications should strongly align with The [University of Newcastle's Strategic Plan](#).

Eligibility

- Applicants can apply once per year.
- UON staff on fixed term contracts and sessional staff are eligible if their employment extends for the duration of the project.
- Team applications and cross discipline collaborations are encouraged.

Ethics Approval

- Your project may need [human ethics approval](#) or [Quality Assurance approval](#) if you are planning on disseminating findings beyond the University of Newcastle. If you wish to know more about publishing on the scholarship of teaching and learning, please contact ed-ldti@newcastle.edu.au

Budget

Applications should list proposed line items up to a maximum of \$1,250. Typical uses for the seed funding would be:

- employment of a research assistant
- production of materials: e.g. toolkits
- equipment, consumables
- software licence
- student helpers
- procurement of specific tools to effect classroom or student activities
- conference attendance (where an abstract has been accepted)

Due to the limited funding of these investments, there would not be sufficient funds for expenses such as funding of work by parties based outside of the University of Newcastle or buy-out of teaching time. Please note that funds should be expended by the end of 2026.

Project and Timeline

Applicants/Projects are required to comply with all relevant University policies and approval processes. The project timeline will commence on **6 July 2026** with final reports due **30th April 2027**.

Project Reporting

At the conclusion of the project applicants are required to:

- submit a short report. The report will outline the project outcomes, impact and projected return on investment.
- provide a short presentation to tEN with a summary of the results, evaluating the effectiveness and evidence of the impact of their funding on Learning and Teaching.
 - The presentation may be made available to all UON staff via the Educator Network website.
 - Award recipients may be invited to present their project and/or findings at other Educator Network events.

Submission Procedures

An e-signed copy of the application form, including Head of School (or equivalent) approval and project outline should be submitted, prior to the application closing date, via email to ten@newcastle.edu.au.

Application Closing Date – 1st June, 2026, 9am.

Selection Panel

The Educator Network Steering Group will appoint a selection panel to rank and determine grant recipients. The panel will use a rubric to adjudicate applications.

Awarded Funds

Any funds awarded would be paid via journal transfer to a relevant cost collector.

Teaching Innovation Investment Scheme (TI²)

APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Details

Title: First Name: Last Name:

School/Unit: Faculty/Div:

Current Position:

Are you considered an Early Career Educator (*under 5 years*) Yes or No:

Email: Telephone (day):

Head of School Email (or equivalent):

Project Title:

Is this an **individual** or **team** application? Individual Team

If Team, please provide additional team member details:

Name(s):	School/Faculty:	Early Career Y/N
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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PROJECT OUTLINE

Learning and Teaching initiative to be undertaken (300-400 words):

Budget

Item:	Amount
TOTAL Requested	

Alignment with The University of Newcastle’s Strategic Plan (500 words max.):

ENDORSEMENT

Lead Applicant e-Signature:

Head of School e-Signature: