

**National Council for Geographic Education**  
**E. Willard and Ruby S. Miller Geography Education Research Grant**

**Award Submission Deadline:** April 30 of each year.

**Eligible Candidates:** Research focused on teaching and learning geography. Proposals that do not explicitly focus on research related to teaching and learning geography will not be considered. Funding is not available for programmatic or curriculum development. Applicants must be NCGE members.

**Award Purpose:** The Miller Research Grant program was established in 2004 through a generous endowment to NCGE by E. Willard and Ruby S. Miller. The grants are intended to advance the frontiers of geography education by supporting and promoting innovative research in theory, practice, and application. Projects should enhance the understanding of geographic teaching and learning through original investigations of learning processes, techniques, and content. Projects may focus on geographic learning and teaching at any age level from pre-school to adult, and could include research on pre-service and/or in-service programs for geography educators. Investigations concentrating on the micro-scale examination of individual classrooms are welcome, but studies pursuing research at multiple sites, with multiple researchers, and/or on a larger scale (i.e. school district, state, national, or international levels) are encouraged.

**Application Procedure**

The applicant will submit the following items:

1. A cover letter that states the name and contact information of the applicant, the title of the project, and the amount requested.
2. An application document describing the proposed work should include:
  - a. An abstract (200 words maximum).
  - b. A section describing the research objectives and questions.
  - c. A section stating how the work will advance knowledge and understanding in geography education.
  - d. A literature review that sufficiently provides context for the research and how the work builds on past work.
  - e. A section providing details of the method used, including participants, instruments, procedures, and techniques. (IRB human subjects assurances must be provided to NCGE prior to the release of grant funds).
  - f. A section providing a statement of broader impact and how the results will be disseminated to the geography education community.
  - g. A references section listing the works cited.
  - h. The application document (items a – g) shall be 2000 words maximum (includes figures, tables, references), double-spaced type, font size 12, and 1-inch margins.
3. A timeline and a budget. The project may last up to 24 months, and up to \$4,000 can be requested. A simple line item budget must be submitted explaining the intended uses of

funds. Funds may be requested for research supplies, staff or student support, research stipend, research travel, and other expenses directly related to the research project. Student assistance is allowed up to a maximum of \$2,000. A research stipend for the grantee or shared among grantees is allowed up to a maximum of \$3,000. Funds are not awarded for fringe benefits of grantees, indirect costs, travel to conferences, tuition, page costs, or fees and registrations. Equipment such as computer hardware and software are generally non-fundable unless it is directly and clearly tied to the success of a research project. Applicants should note in the budget any matching or supplementary funds being used for the project; however, matching funds are not required.

4. Supporting Materials. Please include:
  - a. Curriculum vita of applicant(s) highlighting research, skills, and/or activities that demonstrate the applicant's ability to complete the proposed research (two pages maximum per project applicant).
  - b. *For graduate student applicants:* Include a letter of support from a faculty member who is familiar with your work and can comment on the quality of the proposal and the anticipated likelihood that the project will be successfully completed.

All materials should be combined into a single PDF file for submission.

#### **Award**

All submissions will be reviewed by the Miller Research Grant Review Committee. Up to \$4,000 is available for research projects. All awardees are expected to make an oral presentation of their research at the National Conference on Geography Education and to submit a manuscript for publication consideration in the *Journal of Geography*. NCGE reserves the right to not make a grant award in any given year. A final narrative report of the research and a full financial accounting is due to NCGE within 90 days after the termination date of the project.