



Call for Research Proposals

Backgrounds and Aims

The Internet has been used in various industries and integrated into diverse fields, which accelerates the transformation of traditional society into human-centered modern society characterized by information, knowledge and service. Considering this fact, a fair and life-long individualized education system is required to satisfy the needs for innovative talents in this modern society. In the Internet-based era, it is probable to break geographic limits and reorganize educational resources to build a personalized platform with high-quality service for learners.

Fueled by the Internet, it is expected that schools may be revolutionized and re-designed in the late 21st century. Schools may educate students according to their capabilities and aptitudes instead of age. Schools may flexibly design curriculum taking students' individual needs into account instead of adopting uniformed sessions and settled course structures. With the integration of internet into education, schools are aimed to provide more selectable, more adaptable and more precise education to students.

To study the possibility and form of future education in the late 21st century, a project called *Future Schools in 2030* has been recently established by the Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education (AICFE), Beijing Normal University, P. R. China. This project aims to analyze the new form of education process reform from the perspective of a bi-directional integration of technology and education so as to look at the outlook of the systematic reform of education.

This project will invite famous experts at home and abroad in education, computing education, assessment, etc. to participate in. A White Paper on Future Schools will be published to the world to mark the completion of this project. It will be a valuable opportunity of international communication for experts in the field of education.

The Grant

Each grant provides up to US\$10,000-20,000 for applicants who are currently working on or would like to start research projects that are aligned with the project of *Future Schools in 2030*. The grant is used to cover any expense for work in China and pay for the time and effort devoted to this project. Preference will be given to collaborative research that involves any combination of classroom practitioner,



administrator, and/or an outside researcher. Grant recipients will be required to participate in the *Future Schools in 2030 Symposiums*. The first symposium will be held at the Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education in Beijing, China, where they will be expected to share preliminary research results. The locations for the other two symposiums depend on the situation.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria (100 points total):

- 25 points: Feasibility of the project (in terms of scope, time, qualifications of the applicant)

- 10 points: Relevance to topics/themes about future education and future schools
- 10 points: Evidence of familiarity with current scholarship supporting the inquiry
- 25 points: Quality of the written proposal, i.e., clarity, organization, and design (method, data, analysis)
- 15 points: Potential contribution to the knowledge base
- 10 points: Impact on applicant's practice and/or scholarship
- 5 points: Effective combination of classroom practitioner, administrator, and/or an outside researcher

Scopes and Topics

In addition to topics related to future education, the scope of the proposals includes but is not limited to:

- The environment of future schools
- The curriculum of future schools
- The teaching of future schools
- The learning in future schools
- The evaluation of future schools
- The management of future schools
- The digital teachers of future schools
- The organizations of future schools

Application Process

Adjudication Process: Proposals will be reviewed by the Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education and qualified external reviewers. Grant recipients will be notified once the proposal is approved, which will normally last 4 weeks since we receive your application.



Stipulations: Grant recipients agree to share their preliminary analysis and progress at the *Future Schools in 2030 Symposiums*. Grant recipients will receive a complimentary registration for this event. The symposiums are freely open to all the grant recipients.

Submit a progress report to the Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education 2 weeks in advance of each symposium.

Grant recipients agree to publish their research achievements by AICFE and Beijing Normal University, China.

A piece of SSCI paper should be published in the name of the Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education, Beijing Normal University when completing the research.

In terms of other publications, the Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education, Beijing Normal University should be listed as an author's affiliation.

Proposal Deadline: Wednesday, June 30, 2016, 11:59 pm Beijing time. Find the deadline in your time zone. If you have any questions, please contact AICFE.

How to Prepare Your Application

Before you begin: You are strongly encouraged to write out the answers to the following questions. That way, you can simply cut and paste the information into the application.

- Name of Primary Researcher
- Level of Research Experience (choose one):
 - Novice Researcher: I have conducted fewer than 3 formal empirical research projects and shared the results in a public forum (publication, conference).
 - Experienced Researcher: I have conducted 3 or more formal empirical research projects and have published the results in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Title of Project
- School/Institution
- Occupation Title
- Work Address
- Work Phone
- Work E-mail
- Voluntary Indication of Ethnicity
- Other Members of Your Research Team: Name(s) and Institution(s)
- Population Served in Research Project
- Amount Requested (not to exceed US\$20,000)
- Time Needed to Complete (in months)
- Other Sources of Funding for This Project (list institution and amount)



Writing your grant proposal:

Your grant proposal will be between 1,000 and 1,500 words. It should address the following questions:

- **Issue/need:** What situation, issue, or concerns in your context warrant inquiry?
- **Research Questions:** What questions are you asking and investigating?
- **Connection to the Field:** What debates, experiences, concepts, readings, etc., influenced or motivated this inquiry? How are these questions informed by the *Future Schools in 2030* project?
- **Research Design/Description of the Study:** How will you conduct the study? In this section include the conceptual/theoretical framework, method, data collection, and analysis procedures.
- **Timeline:** What will happen during this study and when? When does the study begin and end?
- **Statement of Significance:** How does this project contribute to the larger knowledge base? How will it influence your practice/scholarship? How does it benefit learners and other key stakeholders?
- **Consent:** What kinds of consent (e.g., verbal, written) will you require? How will you obtain consent from participants?
- **Statement of Ethics:** How you will account for the ethical demands that may arise during the inquiry process, including issues of consent, confidentiality, privacy, and reciprocity for participants (i.e., what's in it for them)?
- **Outputs:** In addition to sharing your inquiry at AICFE 2016, how else will you disseminate your findings? What other ideas do you have for presenting or presenting your research?

Additional questions:

The following questions are in addition to the grant proposal. Your answers should be clear and succinct.

- **Selected References:** An extensive reference list is not required; please provide enough to demonstrate appropriate background knowledge for conceptual/theoretical framework and design, but no more than seven sources.
- **Budget:** Applicants are required to include a budget outlining each item and a rationale for each expenditure. The travel or indirect costs to China of grant recipients will be included in the granted fund.

Completion and Publication

All the grant recipients need to submit a research report, including the research background, methods and results, and publish a piece of SSCI paper when completing each research program. The Beijing Normal University will collect and edit the reports to make a White Paper on Future Schools. All the reports collected will be published as a compilation work to the world, and the information of researchers who



participated in and made contribution to this project will be shown as well.

Important Dates

- Proposal submission deadline: June 30, 2016
- *Future Schools in 2030 Symposium (1)*: August 31, 2016
- *Future Schools in 2030 Symposium (2)*: January 15, 2017
- *Future Schools in 2030 Symposium (3)*: May 25, 2017
- White Paper for Future Schools release : August 20, 2017

Organization

- Sponsors

Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education of Beijing Normal University
Beijing Municipal Commission of Education

- Organizer

Advanced Innovation Center for Future Education of Beijing Normal University

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