

Global Partnership Impact Awards

CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2025-26

Virginia Commonwealth University's Global Education Office (GEO) is pleased to announce the Global Partnership Impact Awards, granting five awards of up to \$5,000 apiece for projects related to **developing, strengthening, and broadening international partnership collaboration**. To diversify VCU's global engagement, areas of priority have been established to encourage collaboration in areas of strategic interest. Priority will be given to projects engaging in **Portugal, Vietnam, or South Korea**, as well as to projects with VCU's strategic partners **Anant National University (India)** and the **University of Córdoba (Spain)**. Please do not hesitate to contact GEO for guidance on areas of or specific institutional partners/contacts for potential collaboration.

Proposals

Proposed projects should focus on increasing the global engagement of VCU students and faculty, and expanding VCU's global footprint through research, teaching, program development, community engagement, etc. These awards are intended to support departments or schools that want to initiate or further develop a relationship with an international institution (or international institutions) that will contribute to enriching learning and scholarship of the unit. Award recipients are expected to work with GEO's Director of Global Partnerships on program development and implementation.

Preference will be given to proposals that include plans for high-impact faculty experiences or research collaborations with specific outcomes, such as important publications and/or external funding proposals or enrollment programs. Projects must involve collaboration with international academic institutions, but those institutions are not required to be already established VCU partnership universities. Examples of collaboration include COIL (collaborative online international learning) and/or guest teaching/instruction (incoming and/or outgoing), collaborative research projects or conference development, short-term special program or enrollment agreement development, etc.

Award amounts and deadline

The final number and amount of awards (up to \$5,000 per award) will depend on the merits of each proposal as determined by reviewers. Hosting units contribute toward and provide office space and equipment (if necessitated).

These awards are not intended to fund one-time events, attendance at professional meetings, equipment purchases, or other expenses typically covered by existing budgets. Awards may be used for faculty/staff travel, but in the interest of program sustainability, should not be used to offset student travel through direct subsidies.

The completed proposal should be received by the Global Education Office by **Thursday, May 15, 2025**. Completed proposals can be submitted using the [online submission form](#). Awards will be **announced by June 15, 2025** and should be **used by June 30, 2026**. Award recipients agree to provide a final report at the end of the award period and to provide promotional credit to the Global Education Office. Questions should be addressed to Dr. Jill Blondin, Vice

Provost for Global Initiatives (jblondin@vcu.edu) and Marci Fradkin, Director of Global Partnerships and Outreach (fradkinm@vcu.edu).

Evaluation criteria

- Alignment with academic unit's strategic goals and the metrics of [VCU Quest 2028: One VCU Together We Transform](#) and/or [The One VCU Research Strategic Priorities Plan](#);
- Feasibility of proposal and evidence that award will result in a sustained, significant impact towards internationalizing VCU;
- Degree of commitment from units and partner universities;
- Creativity and innovation of proposed work;
- Track record in successful implementation of complex initiatives.

Proposals must include

- Summary of proposal
- Description of the proposed activity
- Relation to current programming, initiatives, or priorities in relevant VCU unit(s)
- Relevance of international academic institution partner(s), e.g. common goals and mission, institution's current partners in USA, any previous collaborations between applicant and external partner (grant history, presentations, etc.)
- Anticipated outcomes and significance of the proposed activity and impact on campus internationalization
- Evaluation plan
- Timeline of when the project is expected to take place
- Budget, including how the funds will be spent and any cost sharing provided by department/school/college (cost sharing is not required)
- A letter of support from director/chair of each unit involved addressing the proposal's fit with the department and academic unit's strategic goals and campus internationalization