California Association of Criminalists

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2027-2028 McLaughlin Endowment Funding

The A. Reed and Virginia McLaughlin Endowment of the California Association of Criminalists is beginning its annual cycle of grant funding. Applications and requests are now being accepted for 2027-2028 funding.

The Training and Resources (T&R) Committee Chair must receive applications for training funds by **Friday, February 5, 2027.** (See Section I below for specific application information). Applications shall be for training events scheduled for July 1, 2027, to June 30, 2028.

The Endowment Committee Chair must receive requests for all scholarships or research funds by **Friday, March 5, 2027,** for consideration. (See Sections II & III below for specific information).

Specific Requirements for Proposals

I. Training

A. General

Requests to sponsor training must be submitted earlier than other requests so that the Training and Resources Committee can review them and coordinate with other CAC training efforts. The T&R Committee shall prioritize these requests where necessary and shall consider how the requested training fits into the overall training needs/desires of CAC members. The T&R Committee shall forward ALL requests to sponsor training together with their recommendations to the Endowment Committee for their consideration.

B. Request Format

The two-page Application for Training Funding should be completed. This application is available on the CAC website (www.cacnews.org) and requests the following:

1. Class title, outline, and description of ownership (public or privately owned).
2. Information (curriculum vitae) on instructors.
3. Class logistics: minimum and maximum size, limitations, and location.
4. Class coordinator/contact person.
5. Student interest/demand supported by T&R Survey and/or the number of applications on file.
6. Course budget including supplies, texts or handouts, instructor fees, travel/per diem, and site costs. Amortize material fees for # of CAC member/class.
7. Student fees.

Send completed Application for Training Funding forms to the T&R Committee Chair by **Friday, February 5, 2027.**

II. Scholarships

A. General

The A. Reed and Virginia McLaughlin Endowment offers scholarships through academic institutions rather than directly to students. Proposals from academic institutions shall set forth their general criteria for student scholarship selection. The academic institution shall be responsible for selection of student recipients of such scholarships and shall report awardees and amounts to the Endowment. Applicants must have a minimum of 3.0 GPA overall and 3.0 GPA in their major. Students receiving funds must be members of, or applicants to, the CAC. Students who are interested should request application information directly from their academic program coordinator.

B. Request Format

Proposals for scholarships must contain both a summary and detail section containing a general description of the academic program, its goals, and information on how the proposed funds would be used. For example, will funds be used for tuition and fee relief, stipendiary support, to underwrite student research, etc? The detailed description should include information on recipient selection criteria and who will perform the selection. Scholarship fund administrators must be named, including who will be responsible for submitting the mandatory annual report of activities to the CAC. As a condition of funding, products of research must be submitted to:

1. CAC Seminar Technical Program Chairperson with intent to present research at a CAC seminar; **or**
2. CAC Editorial Secretary for publication in a journal or newsletter as appropriate.

C. Reporting of Distributions

The Academic Program Coordinator must provide a full accounting of the recipients and how they meet the minimum criteria.

D. Refund of Unused Endowment Funds

Any remaining unused portion of the endowment funding shall be returned to the Endowment fund via the CAC Treasurer.

III. Technical Development and Research

A. General

The implementation of new and more efficient technical procedures related to forensic science requires the investment of time, ingenuity, and resources by those working in the field. The development of new techniques and technology can benefit the profession by one or more of the following:

1. Permitting the development of new or additional information from the analysis of certain types of evidence.
2. Implementing a mechanism for the analysis of new forms of evidence.
3. Improving the reliability of methods already in use.
4. Increasing sample throughput by improving efficiency.

Resources permitting, the CAC encourages technical development or research for the benefit of the profession and the association. The A. Reed and Virginia McLaughlin Endowment does not generally fund professional level salary for researchers. Incidental funds for students assisting in research projects will be considered. However, neither the CAC nor the Endowment shall act as an employer.

B. Request Format

Requests for funding for technical development or research should contain the following:

1. Project name and purpose.
2. Name(s) and curriculum vitae for each researcher.
3. A brief description or outline of the project.
4. Information on the project facilities, equipment and supplies needed.
5. Information on the project site, including permission to use the site for this purpose where applicable.
6. Information on the adequacy of available space, safety planning, equipment, and supplies.
7. Agreement for responsibility for disposal of products of research, including but not limited to chemicals, biochemicals, biologicals, and hazardous waste.
8. Project budget.
9. Timeline and projected completion date of project.

C. Progress Reports

Progress reports will be required in writing, the frequency to be determined by the Endowment Committee. The recipient must prepare a final project report, including a summary of results and conclusions. As a condition of funding, products of research must be submitted to:

3. CAC Seminar Technical Program Chairperson with intent to present research at a CAC seminar; **or**
4. CAC Editorial Secretary for publication in a journal or newsletter as appropriate.

When problems occur or results are not as expected, funding recipients are expected to use good judgement in reevaluating the course and goals of the project, and in modifying the project approach as necessary to maximize the project results. The project should be terminated when it is determined that the value of the project is minimal. In addition, funding may be terminated by the Endowment Committee if progress is inadequate.

The T&R Chair must receive all proposals for **training** by **Friday, February 5, 2027.**

Send proposals to:
Trevor Gillis
Santa Clara County DA Crime Lab
250 W. Hedding St.
San Jose, CA 95110
Tel: (408) 808-6953
tgillis@lab.sccgov.org

The Endowment Committee Chair must receive all proposals for **scholarships or research** by **Friday, March 5, 2027.**

Send proposals to:
Brooke Barloewen
Santa Clara County DA Crime Lab
250 W. Hedding St.
San Jose, CA 95110
Tel: (408) 808-5960
bbarloewen@lab.sccgov.org

PLEASE NOTE:
Preference will be given to CAC members and California Universities/Colleges with Forensic Science programs.

Applications that miss the deadline dates will not qualify for consideration.

If you submit a proposal and do not receive confirmation from the Endowment Committee that it has been received, call the Chairperson before March 5, 2027.