

# ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

## 2025-2026 MILLER SCHOLAR AWARD

The Miller Scholars Program was established by the generous donation of **James W. and Marion Miller** and is co-sponsored by St. Cloud State University's Office of Academic Affairs.

### The purpose of this prestigious grant is to:

- Reward faculty innovation and enhance student learning
- Recognize and support faculty members **who have established a demonstrated record of motivation, excellence, and leadership in teaching and learning.**

### Miller Scholar Award Details

- Applicants must be St Cloud State University tenured or tenure-track faculty  
(*note: the project may be completed individually or with a team of peer or student collaborators*)
- The proposed project will take the applicant's demonstrated track record in teaching and learning to a significantly higher level.
- A budget of up to \$8,000\* is available for project implementation  
(\**exact amount subject to confirmation by SCSU University Foundation*)
- The project will be implemented during 2025-26 (FY 25)
- Awardees are expected to make their work public.
  - The budget *must* include funds to present the project outcomes.
  - The awardees will present their results at the Spring 2026 SCSU's Provost Summit or Fall 2026 Convocation.
  - Awardees will submit a written summary report for publication in SCSU's Institutional Repository.

### Selection Criteria

#### The applicant meets the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated record of effective, equitable, and innovative teaching and learning practices.
2. Evidence of scholarly contributions influencing teaching and learning methods within their discipline.
3. Commitment to ongoing professional learning, involvement in learning communities, teamwork initiatives and/or leadership related to teaching and learning.

#### The project meets the following criteria:

1. Demonstrates the applicant's commitment and goals around excellence in teaching and learning.
2. Has the potential to meet a significant need for student success
3. Aligns with current frameworks of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.
4. Aligns with SCSU's mission, value, and learning initiatives, such as *Our Husky Compact* and *It's Time*

### Submission Instructions

**Deadline:** Applications are due by **Thursday, March 20, 2025** by 5 pm.

Submit all applications to CETL by email ([CETL@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:CETL@stcloudstate.edu)) as a single pdf.

#### Proposal requirements (see evaluation rubrics below)

1. A cover-page with the title of your proposal and name/s and titles of applicants.
2. Short abstract (100 words or less) providing an overview of the project
3. A reflective narrative (maximum 5 pages, 10-12 pt font, single-spaced, sensible margins) that highlights the applicant's and/or team's teaching approach/es, areas of excellence, demonstrated successes, and how these will help them implement the proposed project.

4. Project Description
  - a. Project summary and rationale
  - b. Project goal/s and objectives. Specify how the project aligns with faculty's professional developmental goals and how the project will benefit student learning.
  - c. Activities/Timeline
  - d. Assessment plan
  - e. Names of internal or external collaborators
5. Project budget
  - a. Supplies, training, student or peer support, extra duty days
  - b. Funds to make project outcomes public (e.g. conference travel, publication costs, etc.)
  - c. Specify potential for obtaining additional external funding and/or previous funds received for the project.
6. Support documents
  - a. Two letters of support from colleagues, students, and/or alums, discussing applicant/team qualifications and capacity to complete the proposed project.
  - b. A letter from the Dean of lead applicant's college or school supporting the project proposal and indicating alignment with department, program, college/school and university priorities.
  - c. Signature Sheet with approvals from department or program and Dean.
7. Any other documents in support of the project (optional)

### **Selection Process**

A Review Team will review all qualified proposals, then submit written comments and awardee recommendations to the SCSU Provost. The provost will review and forward recommendations to SCSU University President. The review team will include:

- Director of SCSU Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (Convener)
- Minimum of two faculty representatives from the CETL Advisory Committee
- One Academic Dean and/or the Associate Provost (optional)
- One or two SCSU students

### **Project Implementation and Completion**

- Funding for the Miller Scholar Program is awarded from the SCSU Foundation. Upon award, CETL provides guidance on distribution of funds.
- Awarded funds are to be used exclusively for the work outlined in the proposed narrative. Any modifications to the proposal must be reported to CETL for review.

### **Timelines:**

**Wednesday, April 16th, 2025:** Announcement of 2025-25 Miller Scholar Awardee at the Provost Summit

**July 2025:** Project implementation begins.

**Spring or Fall 2026:** Project presentation to university community (Provost Summit or Fall Convocation; family of the donor is invited). Public dissemination of project results (scholarly presentation or publication).

**Spring/Summer 2026:** Written summary report submitted to CETL and for publication in SCSU's Institutional Repository with 60 days of project completion. Report will include the following:

- Project title
- Principal investigator & Co-PI information: email, department, school/college/unit
- Project completion date
- Award amount granted and how funds were spent to support the project
- Activities, measurable goals and objectives achieved by the project
- Description of how project benefitted faculty PI, College/School/Unit, Students, and Institution
- Project next steps/dissemination plans

**Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning  
Miller Scholar Evaluation Form**

<b>Reviewer Name:</b>	Click or tap here to enter text.
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Click or tap here to enter text.

**Using a scale of 0-10 points, evaluate how well the proposal meets the following criteria.**

<b>Evaluation Rubric</b>	Excell ent 3	Good 2	Fair 1	Missi ng
<b>1. Research or Scholarly Activity</b> Project relates to teaching practices and/or student learning and has broad significant impact beyond the discipline (e.g. pedagogical practices; curriculum development; open access contributions; assessment; interprofessional work, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>2. Background / Need</b> Project need and purpose are clearly explained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>3. Significance / Value</b> Project is significant to both the discipline and an issue related to teaching/learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>4. Goals and Objectives</b> Goals and objectives are specific and align with project focus.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5. Assessment</b> Evaluation plan is valid, specific, measures project success and will inform future teaching and learning decisions				
<b>6. Strategy / Methods / Design</b> Procedures are clearly outlined and feasible for the project proposed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>7. Methods/Design</b> Scale of project is focused and feasible				
<b>8. Innovation</b> Project is innovative and advances the scholarship of teaching and learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9. Qualifications of Applicant or Team</b> Team has expertise and capacity to carry out the proposed project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>10. Timeline</b> Reasonable timeline for proposed project and detail provided with completion dates of specific goals or objectives. Project expected length is one academic year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>11. Outcomes</b> Contributes well to the applicant's and/or team's professional development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>12. Impact</b> Offer significant impact b/y discipline. Adds to knowledge of teaching and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>13. Benefits</b> Project aligns with college/school/university mission. Benefits students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>14. Budget</b> Realistic and appropriate to meet the goals and objectives of the project. Sufficient justification of costs. Specifies funds to make project outcomes public. <i>*committee – consult if a team member is outside of IFO bargaining unit to discuss remuneration options..</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>15. Quality of Writing and Organization</b> Proposal is well written, professional in appearance, coherent, consistent throughout, and accessible to readers outside of the discipline.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Total Points:**

**Reviewer Recommendation**

- Fund
- Partially Fund Amount:
- Not Recommended

Reviewer Comments: