

UC DIALOGUE FELLOWS PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility

Q: Who is eligible to apply for the fellowship?

A: Current UC Faculty and policy-covered staff (staff not represented by a collective bargaining agreement) are eligible to apply as the Project Lead (PL) on project proposals.

Q: Can multiple people apply together under one proposal?

A: No. Each project will have ONE Project Lead. However, any number of people may work on a project team.

Q: Can graduate students apply?

A: No. Graduate students who are represented by a collective bargaining unit may not serve as a Project Lead but may serve on a project team.

Q: Are campus volunteers eligible to apply?

A: No. Applicants must be employees of a UC campus.

Q: Who can be part of the cohort of fellows?

A: The Project Lead or a delegate may serve as a fellow in the cohort. Please note that the same person is expected to attend cohort meetings and events. Teams may not switch between team members to serve as the fellow throughout the course of the program.

Funding

Q: What will the \$5,000 in funding cover?

A: The objective of the fellowship is to support the teaching of dialogue skills in the curricular context or work that supports such teaching. The grant money is intended to support the proposed project to teach these skills. Funds will be provided to the Project

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Lead's home department via a fiscal contact and will be spent in accordance with university policies and procedures.

Application

Q: What types of materials will be required for the application?

A: Components of the application will include:

- Description of the proposed project, including objectives, design, deliverables and anticipated impact
- Description of your experiences with dialogue, including a definition of dialogue skills, and how you have taught dialogue skills in the past
- CV or resume of all applicants
- Description of your interest in the fellowship program

Q: Are there sample proposals to look at for reference?

A: Since this is the inaugural cohort of fellows for this pilot program, there are no sample proposals.

Q: How many proposals will be selected?

A: Up to 20 proposals will be selected to participate in the fellowship. The selection committee will aim for the cohort to represent all ten UC campuses.

Q: How will proposals be selected?

A: Proposals will be reviewed by a selection committee of UC subject-matter experts. Proposals will be evaluated and selected based on the responses to the application questions in the following areas:

- Definition of Dialogue Skills
- Interest in the Fellowship
- Proposed Project
- Prior Experience

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Target Audience

Q: Who is the target audience for the program/project?

A: The target audience is anyone who can teach dialogue skills in the curricular context or who can provide support for this teaching.

Q: Does the fellowship include projects for co-curricular initiatives?

A: No, the fellowship is for programs/projects in the curricular context.

Q: Can the project include teaching high school students?

A: No. The fellowship is intended for UC faculty and policy-covered staff to provide dialogue skills to UC community members (e.g., students).

Q: Can a project target medical students at UC schools of medicine? Postdocs?

A: Yes, for the purposes of this fellowship, medical residents at UC schools of medicine and postdoctoral students at UC campuses are considered students.

Fellowship Experience

Q: What is the time commitment for participants in the fellowship?

A: Selected fellows will be expected to commit the time necessary to design and implement their project, provide a mid-project update and final report and participate in eight two-hour meetings between October and May. Meetings will take place on the following Fridays between 10 a.m.–noon

- October 23, 2026
- November 20, 2026
- December 11, 2026 (optional)
- January 22, 2027
- February 19, 2027
- March 19, 2027
- April 23, 2027
- May 7, 2027

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Fellows will also attend an in-person meeting at the UC Office of the President on May 27, 2027.

Q: How is this fellowship different from the dialogue-focused fellowship offered by my campus?

A: Some campuses have campus-specific faculty fellowships that are also related to dialogue. The systemwide UC Dialogue Fellows program is a separate experience, but it will be coordinating with campus programs to strengthen connections and share resources.