

ACJS Minority Mentorship Grant Award

The deadline for nominations is September 1, 2026.

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The intent of the ACJS Minority Mentorship Grant Award is to create opportunities for mentorship of minority doctoral students or junior faculty by senior criminal justice professors at the same or another institution within the ACJS organization. The goal is to facilitate a mentoring relationship between doctoral students or junior faculty and senior faculty mentors to facilitate the former's professional development for a productive criminal justice academic career.

1. Applications should be submitted by the applicant mentor with the agreement of a designated mentee who has agreed in writing to be mentored for one year.
2. The ACJS Minorities Mentorship Grant Award of \$1,000 to be provided to the mentor awardee can be used for expenses of the mentor involved in working with the mentee, such as telephone, postage, travel, honorarium, or other training expenses needed to develop a focused program of mentorship.
3. One mentorship pair will be selected each year.
4. ACJS will recognize the Awardee and Mentee at its annual ceremony during the ACJS Annual Meeting. The Awardee will receive an award check and a plaque. The Mentee will receive a plaque.

Eligibility criteria:

To be eligible for an award, the mentor applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. A member of ACJS at the time of application.
2. A senior faculty member (full professor).
3. Demonstrated excellence in teaching.
4. Established record of scholarship productivity in criminal justice.
5. Currently teaching in a CRJ/CRIM at a regionally accredited institution of higher education [may be at the same or different institution than the mentee].
6. Commitment to provide a one-year program of active mentorship to the mentee.
7. Submitted a complete electronic application by the due date.

To be eligible for an award, the **mentee** must meet the following criteria:

1. A member of ACJS at the time of application.
2. A member of an under-represented racial/ethnic minority group in the criminal justice/criminology discipline.
3. Doctoral student or junior faculty member.
4. Written commitment to a one-year program of active mentorship.

Self-nominations by applicants are allowed.

Application process: ACJS sends out an annual request for applications for the ACJS Minorities Mentorship Grant Award. Applications must be provided electronically to the Subcommittee Chair by the established due date.

To be eligible for the award, an applicant (potential mentor) must submit:

1. Coversheet with the following information for both the applicant and the proposed mentee:
 - a. Name.
 - b. Statement regarding ACJS membership.
 - c. Current academic rank/position.
 - d. Race/ethnicity.
 - e. Institution.
 - f. Street and e-mail address.
 - g. Telephone number.
2. Three to five (3-5) page, single-spaced narrative addressing:
 - a. Applicant's background and academic experience.
 - b. Description of work and research experience.
 - c. Short-term objectives with measurable outcomes (for example abstract or manuscript submissions, proposal development) for the period of mentorship award (one-year).
 - d. Description of how the mentorship award will meet short-term and long-term objectives.
 - e. Compatibility of the applicant's previous work with the mentee's interests and professional goals.
3. Mentoring work plan which should include
 - a. Description of the activities to be undertaken with the mentee.
 - b. Timeline.
 - c. Brief (one (1)-page) budget and justification for the mentoring experience.
4. Letter of support from mentee stating commitment to the mentorship.
5. Letter of support from mentee's doctoral advisor (if relevant).

Selection criteria: Only those individuals who meet all eligibility criteria will be evaluated based on the selection criteria.

The Subcommittee for this Award will examine the full applications of all eligible applicants against the selection criteria and rank order the applications for the purpose of deliberating to make a final recommendation.

Applications will be ranked on the following characteristics:

1. The applicant has clearly stated the significance of the proposed grant activity to the professional development of the proposed mentee.
2. The applicant has clearly stated a sound set of objectives and measurable outcomes or plan of activities for the mentorship.
3. The applicant has clearly shown the compatibility of the applicant's previous work with the mentee's interest and professional goals.
4. The overall merit and quality of the proposed mentoring activities.