



TIRF CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Kathleen M. Bailey Teacher-Research Award

TIRF invites proposals for the **Kathleen M. Bailey Teacher-Research Award**
(**TIRF Bailey Award**) 2024

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Thursday, June 20, 2024
(11:59pm Pacific Daylight Time – Canada/USA)

INTRODUCTION

The International Research Foundation for English Language Education (TIRF) was founded in 1999 as an international, non-profit organization. Its aim is to generate new knowledge and to collect and organize existing knowledge about the teaching and learning of English for the purposes of informing educational policy; improving classroom practices; and, ultimately, expanding educational, occupational, and social opportunities for individuals in a global society.

TIRF is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Trustees composed of scholars, authors, and individuals working in the corporate sector and is supported by charitable donations. TIRF is committed to developing and implementing an innovative, proactive applied research program to help ensure that English as a second, foreign, or additional language is taught, learned, and tested in a manner that is demonstrably effective, expedient, and economical. TIRF is also committed to strengthening links among theory, practice, and policy and to fostering partnerships among researchers around the world. One of the activities TIRF undertakes to advance its mission is the funding of research.

Description of the Award

TIRF is pleased to announce a new research award for teachers. The **TIRF Kathleen M. Bailey Teacher-Research Award** (hereafter, the TIRF Bailey Award) honors Dr. Kathleen M. Bailey, who served as TIRF's President and Chair of the Board of Trustees for over a decade, from 2009 to 2022. The award is meant to recognize Dr. Bailey's research, her lifelong commitment to teaching, and her desire to support and encourage research carried out by practicing English language teachers, as well as honor her commitment to TIRF. The award is designed to encourage, support, and recognize research conducted by teachers. It also serves as a vehicle for the creation of new knowledge about language teaching and learning as well as the development of research skills for both new and experienced teachers.



Eligibility

To be eligible for the TIRF Bailey Award, applicants must be practicing teachers of English as a second/foreign/additional language, to include dual language immersion teachers in two-way programs with English learners. The award is open to teachers of English worldwide. Teachers can be working with learners of any age, language background, nationality, or proficiency level in both academic and non-academic programs. In addition, TIRF welcomes proposals from teachers at all levels of instruction who have varying degrees of teaching experience. A team of two or more teachers may also apply together. There are no restrictions on citizenship.

Research Topics

Proposals for the TIRF Bailey Award can address any research topic that is of interest to applicants. TIRF is particularly interested in funding research that is important to learners and furthers our understanding of language learning in classroom contexts. TIRF also encourages proposals from teachers who wish to pursue research in one of TIRF's primary areas of research focus: (a) Language Planning and Policy; (b) Language Assessment; and (c) Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Preparation.

A detailed explanation of TIRF's research topics and the areas of focus can be found by [clicking here](#).

- Content-based Instruction
- Digital Technology in Language Education
- English as a Medium of Instruction
- Language Assessment
- Language Policy and Planning
- Language Teacher Education
- Migrants and Refugees: Teaching and Assessing English
- Plurilingualism in Business, Industry, the Professions, and Educational Contexts
- Research on Revitalization of Endangered Indigenous Languages
- Students' Age and Effective English Language Education
- Teaching English to Young Learners

When considering whether to submit a proposal for a TIRF Bailey Award, teachers should have a specific question in mind that they would like to answer about learners and learning in their classrooms. Research mentoring may be an option for all teachers who receive a TIRF Bailey Award and would like support in designing and carrying out their research.

Features of the TIRF Bailey Awards

- TIRF Bailey Awards are for US \$1,000 per proposal. A pair or small team of teachers may submit a joint proposal and distribute the funds appropriately between/among themselves. In the case of a joint proposal, please identify one individual who will correspond with TIRF. All awardees will be recognized on the TIRF website.
- Monies may be spent on actual costs for carrying out the research or on expenses for professional development, such as registration fees for a conference, hotel accommodations, and transportation.



- Additional sources of funding applied for or received to fund the same research project should be declared. Seeking or obtaining other sources of funding for the project does not disqualify a teacher from receiving a TIRF Bailey Award.
- TIRF Bailey Award proposals should be related directly to English language education, have strong implications for learners, and answer questions that have important implications for learners.
- TIRF Bailey Award proposals, applications, and required products must be written in English.
- TIRF strongly encourages the dissemination of findings. Final products for the TIRF Bailey Awards are as follows: TIRF asks that teachers submit a final report and participate in an exit interview with TIRF at the conclusion of their project. Final reports follow a template provided by TIRF and should be sent to info@tirfonline.org. TIRF also encourages awardees (a) to make a presentation, such as giving a conference talk or workshop or webinar, for other teachers, or (b) to write a paper for publication in a professional journal, book, or newsletter. All awardees will **acknowledge TIRF in all forms of dissemination**, including conference presentations and published papers.

Characteristics of Successful Proposals

A successful proposal for a TIRF Bailey Award is complete and includes all information on the proposal form. The proposal should be written in clear and precise language. The proposal form will ask applicants to do the following:

- Identify a research question(s) that has important implications for learners and learning in a classroom context;
- Describe the type of data you need to answer the question(s);
- Provide ideas for how data are to be collected;
- Explain what data analysis methods might be used;
- Explain how the research methods (data collection and analysis) are appropriate for answering the research question(s); and
- Create a timeline for the research project that is manageable and can be completed in one year.

TIRF Bailey Award Application Procedures

- The deadline for receipt of complete proposals is **Thursday, June 20, 2024** (11:59 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time — Canada/USA). Late submissions will not be accepted.
- Submit a completed TIRF Bailey Award application form [via TIRF's website](#). (See proposal/application notes below.)
- Please check your application submission carefully. You may not submit more than once in any given competition year. If multiple copies of an applicant's proposal are submitted, only the first one received will be processed.
- Acknowledgement of the receipt of an application will be sent to the email address provided by the applicant within five business days after the file is uploaded. If an applicant has not had his/her application acknowledged within five business days of sending it, he/she should contact info@tirfonline.org using the subject heading "TIRF Bailey Award Application Received?"



- If an applicant has any difficulties submitting his/her proposal electronically, he/she should send an email to info@tirfonline.org using the subject heading “TIRF Bailey Award 2024 Application – Technical Difficulty.”
- Applications that are incomplete or that do not follow the specifications cannot be processed and will be rejected.

Adjudication of TIRF Bailey Award Proposals

Proposals for TIRF Bailey Awards will be adjudicated by TIRF Trustees and other scholars in the field who have agreed to serve as external reviewers. Each proposal is considered by at least two reviewers. If the two reviewers are not in agreement as to the merits of the proposal, the proposal will be sent to a third reviewer. TIRF’s Research Advisory Committee retains final authority over all decisions concerning recommendations for funding.

TIRF is unable to provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants for the TIRF Bailey Awards relative to the reasons for which they may not have been funded. Unfortunately, because of the limited grant money available, not all applications worthy of support are approved for funding.

Notification of Results and Disbursement of Funds

Notification of results for the TIRF Bailey Award will be made by late **September 2024**. The project summaries of successful proposals and photographs of grant recipients will be posted on TIRF’s website.

1. Funding is paid in two installments. Once awardees accept a TIRF Bailey Award, they will receive the first installment, which is 80% of the award. In the case of joint proposals, award monies are sent to the individual designated to correspond with TIRF. When the research project has been completed and the awardee has submitted the required products, the final payment (i.e., 20% of the grant) will be sent to the awardee. Awardees should write to info@tirfonline.org to request the final report template upon completing their research projects. Final reports should be sent to info@tirfonline.org.
2. Research is meant to be completed and final products submitted within 18 months. Requests for extensions beyond this date must be approved by TIRF; otherwise, monies for final payments may not be provided.
3. TIRF’s preferred method of payment is by check. However, for grantees who cannot cash checks drawn on a U.S.-based bank account, we will transmit payments via PayPal. Grant recipients living outside the United States will need to create a PayPal account to accept payment. Should an awardee request a direct, bank-to-bank wire transfer, the fees associated for such a transfer will be deducted from the grantee’s award. Such fees are determined when a transaction is initiated. TIRF is unable to provide a grantee with the transference audit trail of award monies.

TIRF reserves the right to use information from project proposal summaries, professional products resulting from the Award, and final reports, including the grant recipient’s photograph and email address, for dissemination on its website and in other media. Publications and presentations resulting from TIRF-funded research should be emailed to TIRF’s Chief Operating Officer, Ryan Damerow, at ryan.damerow@tirfonline.org. In addition, all publications and



professional presentations resulting from the TIRF Bailey Awards must acknowledge the support of TIRF.

TIRF BAILEY AWARD PROPOSAL FORMAT

You must use the TIRF Bailey Award proposal form when submitting your file. [Click here](#) to access the form. If you are submitting a joint proposal, [click here](#) to access the form.

1. Name
2. Address
3. Email
4. Name and address of the institution or program where you teach
5. Describe the specific context to which your research will apply (50-75 words)
6. What is the topic for your research? Does the research you want to conduct address any of [TIRF's Research Topics](#)? If yes, which one?
7. What is the title of your research proposal?
8. What research question(s) about your learners or learning do you want to answer?
9. What type of data do you think you will need to collect to answer the question(s)?
10. What procedures do you think you will need to collect data to answer the question(s)?
11. How might you analyze these data to answer your research question(s)?
12. What is the timeline for your research? How long do you think it will take you to conduct your research?
13. What do you think might be the direct impact of your research on your English learners and/or on learning?
14. All TIRF Bailey Award recipients may request a mentor to provide support with research design and development. If you receive a TIRF Bailey Award, would you like to request a TIRF research mentor?
15. Provide a brief explanation of how principles of research ethics will be upheld in your research or indicate that you are willing to obtain ethics approval from your language program or institution, such as IRB approval. If you plan to publish your research or present it at a conference, you will need obtain ethics approval. A TIRF research mentor may be able to assist you.
16. Include a maximum two-page CV for each applicant included in your proposal.