

PURPOSE

The FCSI Educational Foundation (FCSI EF) supports original research that advances the foodservice consulting profession and provides meaningful benefit to FCSI members. Grants are intended to fund studies, white papers, or projects that:

- Address current challenges or emerging trends in foodservice design, management, or operations.
- Create new knowledge or tools that enhance consultant practice.
- Support innovation, sustainability, and thought leadership in the industry.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Propose **original, non-commercial research** (not tied to a manufacturer, brand, or product promotion).
- Demonstrate the capacity to complete the research within **6 months**.

FUNDING LEVEL

- Typical grants range from **\$2,500 to \$5,000 USD**.
- Partial funding may be awarded based on the quality and scope of the proposal.

DELIVERABLES

Recipients must:

- Submit a **Final Research Report** or White Paper suitable for publication by FCSI EF.
- Provide an **Executive Summary** for member distribution.
- If asked, present findings (virtually or at an FCSI event) within 12 months of award.

TIMELINE

Stage	Date
Call for Proposals Opens	January 15
Application Deadline	March 15
Awards Announced	May 1
Project Completion Deadline	Dec 31

EVALUATION PROCESS

Proposals are reviewed by the **FCSI EF Research Review Committee** using a structured rubric. Recommendations are approved by the FCSI EF Board.

USE OF FUNDS

Grant funds may be used for:

- Research expenses (data collection, surveys, travel for interviews, software, etc.)
- Research assistant or academic partner fees

Funds may not be used for:

- Commercial gain or marketing studies
- Equipment purchases unrelated to research



LEARN MORE:
WWW.FCSIEF.ORG
OR EMAIL:
GREGJ@FCSIEF.ORG

FCSI EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION

A. Applicant Information

- Name
- University Affiliation
- Email
- Phone
- Mailing Address

B. Project Information

1. **Project Title**
2. **Research Summary** (150 words)
3. **Statement of Purpose** – What question or problem does this research address? Why is it relevant to FCSI members?
(max 500 words)
4. **Methodology** – Describe your approach, data collection methods, and timeline. (max 500 words)
5. **Expected Outcomes and Deliverables** – What will the FCSI membership gain from this project? (max 300 words)
6. **Budget Summary** – Include major expense categories and total funding requested.
7. **Timeline / Milestones**
8. **Previous EF Funding** (if any)
9. **Supporting Materials** – Optional: CV, letters of support, references, sample work.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all information in this application is accurate and that the research will be conducted in accordance with ethical and professional standards.

Signature _____ Date _____