



MAA Project NExT

NEW EXPERIENCES IN TEACHING

A Program of the Mathematical Association of America

Information for Chair's Letter of Support

Project NExT is a professional development program for new and recent Ph.D.s in the mathematical sciences. It addresses all aspects of an academic career: improving the teaching and learning of mathematics, engaging in research and scholarship, and participating in professional service. Past participants, called Fellows, describe the program as launching their careers; many have become leaders at their own institution or in the mathematical community.

Each cohort of Project NExT Fellows meets three different times:

- in conjunction with MathFest, the summer meeting of the MAA (usually in early August)
- at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in January of the following year
- in conjunction with the next MathFest

The costs of participation are split between the MAA and each Fellow's institution. The programming, some food, and venues are provided by the MAA (with support from many organizations and individuals). Each institution supports its faculty member by funding the travel, lodging, conference registration, and the remaining food necessary to attend all three meetings. Costs vary depending on location (future meetings locations are at the MAA's [website](#)), but we estimate that they total approximately \$4000 for each Fellow.

To ensure that each Fellow has the financial support to attend all Project NExT events and the institutional support for implementing innovative instructional techniques and curricula, an application to Project NExT is not complete without a letter from a chair or dean. After we receive contact information from an applicant (as part of her/his application), we contact the chair/dean directly asking for a letter. That letter should address two important points:

- the institution's commitment to **providing sufficient travel funds to attend all three meetings** (if possible, noting the specific source of funding, such as travel grants, startup money, or Provost's discretionary fund).
- how the applicant's participation in Project NExT would **contribute to the department and institution**.

Please note that because of the timing of the conferences, travel funds might be required in two or three different fiscal years.

For more information about Project NExT, including past programs, please consult our [website](#) or contact [David Kung, Director of Project NExT](#).

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