

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR USING FACILITIES UNAVAILABLE ON YOUR CAMPUS

A small grants program, funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, enables faculty and Ph.D. students in the natural sciences in Southern colleges and universities to obtain support for expenses incurred while traveling to use equipment and facilities not available on their own campuses.

Numerous facilities which might be used through this program are listed in the Catalog of Uncommon Facilities in Southern Universities, a publication of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). However, support is not restricted to use of facilities listed in that document.

Funding will be given primarily for activities which enhance the learning process or have a direct relationship to a particular course of study. A faculty member could travel to another university to use a nuclear reactor to conduct irradiation experiments. Another faculty member might use a large-core computer for modeling and data analysis. A graduate student in geology could use one of the few geochronology laboratories in the region to examine and date samples he has collected.

The grants will cover expenses which result from the use of facilities, in particular living and travel expenses and charges that might be assessed for using the facilities. Requests which attempt to keep costs to a minimum will be received most favorably in an effort to insure wide distribution of the funds.

The procedure to be used in applying for a grant is as follows:

1. Contact the appropriate official at the institution holding the facility to explain the desired use of the facility and to arrange possible dates for a visit.
2. Apply to the project director at SREB for financial support. Indicate in the application letter the name and location of the facility to be visited, the educational purposes for using the facility, and estimated costs for transportation, living expenses, and use of the facility. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Dr. Steven H. Smartt
Southern Regional Education Board
130 Sixth Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

With the application letter, enclose an endorsement from a school official. (Student travel should be endorsed by the student's faculty advisor. Faculty travel should be endorsed by the department chairman.)

All grant requests will be acted upon within three weeks of the date received. In approving an application, SREB will agree to reimburse the user for expenditures not to exceed a specific amount, based on the estimated costs. Reimbursement will be made upon receipt of an itemized expense account and a letter describing the experience and the extent to which the proposed objectives were accomplished.