funding priorities
The selection committee is especially interested in projects that employ innovative and creative approaches, develop new pilots or prototypes, and are intended to have a significant and long-term effect on teaching and learning at MIT. Looking toward the future, the committee values projects that will make a sustained contribution to MIT’s educational excellence and will consider unusual or “high-risk” initiatives that serve the interest of experimentation and pedagogical improvements. Proposals for projects that explore ways in which online or blended learning experiments can help MIT faculty teach more effectively within the MIT residential educational system are welcomed, as are projects that strive to demonstrate the special and specific value of a residentially based education.

The Funds support undergraduate education projects from any discipline; collaboration among disciplines is encouraged. Multiple year projects will be accepted, but grants will be made on a year-by-year basis.

eligibility
MIT faculty and teaching staff may apply. Student proposals will be considered, but only with the support of a supervising faculty sponsor and the appropriate department head.

grant range
Normally, grants range from $10,000 to $50,000. Larger grants will be considered for special projects. Cost sharing is encouraged.

deadlines
The proposal deadline for projects to be undertaken during the 2015-2016 academic year is Friday, January 30, 2015.

application procedures
A complete application includes:
• An Alumni Class Funds cover sheet (available at http://web.mit.edu/alumnifunds/how-to-apply.html)
• A proposal narrative that includes:
  1. A detailed description of the project
  2. A description of your educational objectives with answers to the following questions:
     a. How will the project enhance your teaching?
     b. How will it improve the students’ experiences in the classroom?
     c. What is the potential impact of the project at MIT? Estimate number of students served now and in the future.
  3. Description of resources and staffing needed
  4. Assessment plan and desired outcomes
  5. Requests for project renewals must include a report on the project to date.
  6. If you have received other funds previously from the Alumni Class Funds, briefly describe the project(s) and what was accomplished.
• A project budget that includes a breakdown of costs, amount requested, and other funding sources such as support from the department or school, as well as a budget narrative explaining the costs. For multiple year projects, complete the budget template for the application year and include an estimated budget for the complete project in the narrative. (budget sample and template available at http://web.mit.edu/alumnifunds/how-to-apply.html)
• A letter from your department, program, or section head indicating support for the project and plans for sustaining it.
proposal submission
By email: alumnifunds@mit.edu
(Word or PDF)

For additional information or answers to questions, please contact Associate Dean Mary Enterline at 617-253-9763 or alumnifunds@mit.edu.

review process
Proposals are reviewed by a selection committee consisting of members of the Classes of 1951, 1955, 1972, and 1999; the Deans from MIT’s five Schools or their designees; the Dean for Undergraduate Education; and the Dean for Curriculum and Faculty Support. Decisions regarding the 2015-2016 awards will be announced in the spring.

final reports
If funded, you will be required to submit a report by August 1, 2016.