

Grant manager search for capacity building initiative announced by ATS

By FRANK M. YAMADA

The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) invites applications for the position of **grant manager** for the Increasing Capacities to Better Serve Diverse Students Initiative. This full-time, remote role is ideal for a mission-minded professional who enjoys helping schools grow and improve. As an associate-director level grant manager, the person in this role will work with ATS colleagues to support theological schools across the United States and Canada as they strengthen their ability to engage and serve the students and communities connected to their missions and with ATS as an organization as we seek continual improvement of structures and frameworks.

A mission-aligned, relationship-centered partner

The successful candidate will demonstrate judgment, clear communication, and strong interpersonal skills and thrive in a collaborative environment that values generative thinking and shared learning.

Because the role requires frequent engagement with senior leaders, faculty, and administrators across ATS member schools, the grant manager must be able to synthesize information, communicate with care, and build trust across a wide range of school contexts.

In addition to partnering with schools and ATS colleagues, the grant manager will steward the grant's day-to-day operations, assessment, and reporting. This includes gathering and analyzing data, developing evaluation processes, preparing summary reports, coordinating the grant review process, and supporting consultants.

The role also involves supporting learning experiences, such as modules, peer groups, and gatherings, that will



strengthen schools' capacity to serve diverse student populations with approaches that are contextually grounded, adaptive, and responsive to the complexities facing theological education today.

This position requires regular travel, including visits to ATS member schools and periodic trips to Pittsburgh for staff gatherings and planning meetings.

Building on a strong foundation

This role advances the Increasing Capacities to Better Serve Diverse Students Initiative within its full implementation phase, which I am currently managing in my role as executive director. The grant manager will guide the project through its multiyear execution and toward successful completion.

While distinct from the initiative's scope, related efforts in diversities work led by Elsie Miranda, ATS director of culture and community engagement, and Lester Ruiz, ATS director of global awareness and engagement, provide helpful context and support culturally attentive practices and global awareness across the Association as the grant's work proceeds. Together, our collective

efforts shape the Association's ongoing commitment to transformative and ethical innovation.

Key responsibilities

Reporting directly to Heather Hartung, senior director of programs and initiatives, the grant manager will:

- Compile and learn from past efforts across ATS and theological education to understand what has worked, what has not, and where gaps remain;
- Produce dissemination of a membership-wide needs and opportunities mapping to help schools identify their goals and the strategies to reach them;
- Support schools through grants, learning modules, peer groups, and targeted interventions designed to build institutional capacity to serve diverse students in ways aligned with each school's mission;
- Develop evaluation plans, lead data collection, track progress toward project goals, and prepare clear, accessible reports;
- Coordinate the grant review process and manage consultants involved in project work;
- Collaborate with ATS colleagues to curate resources and produce tools that help schools describe and assess their work in serving diverse students and enhance the capacities of ATS staff and committees;
- Provide planning and logistical support for onsite gatherings, regional meetings, and other project events.

Qualifications and dispositions

We are seeking someone who:

- Holds a master's degree or higher;
- Brings five to seven years of relevant experience in theological education or in roles focused on helping institutions serve a variety of students and communities;

- Has five or more years of grant coordination or management experience;
- Communicates clearly in writing and speech and works well with highly educated, professional audiences;
- Demonstrates strong support of the Association's core value of diversity and the multiple forms of diversity that exist across member schools in light of their mission, history, constituency, educational practices, structures, and theological commitments;
- Can manage multiple projects at once and collaborate across teams;
- Shows a strong commitment to helping schools serve diverse constituencies in ways that are appropriate to each school's mission and context.

A meaningful opportunity for impact

This initiative, supported by Lilly Endowment Inc., is collaborative, adaptive, and grounded in the lived realities of ATS member schools. It helps schools learn from the past, map needs and opportunities, strengthen programs and leadership pathways, and plan for the future.

Apply today

To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter detailing your interest and qualifications to Elise Sutter, ATS associate director of human resources, at hr@ats.edu. View the [full job listing](#) on the ATS website.

The position is full-time, remote, and funded through December 31, 2028, or the duration of the grant. Applications will be received through May 1, 2026.

ATS is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from all qualified candidates.



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