



December 3rd, 2025

**ACC-CRIA INNOVATION INITIATIVE 2024-2025 SMALL GRANT PROJECTS COMPLETE
& 2025-2026 GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED**

Charlotte, NC Results from five research projects funded in the fourth annual 2024-2025 ACC Innovation grant cycle are [now available](#) via whitepaper and video presentation. Earlier this month, officials from the Atlantic Coast Conference announced five new grant recipients for the 2025-2026 ACC-CRIA Innovation Initiative Small Grant Program with awards totaling approximately \$25,000.

The purpose of the grant program is to fund research examining issues related to college athletics administration. Proposal authors included both faculty and students representing 14 different ACC institutions. Each proposal was reviewed by ACC Faculty Athletic Representatives and ACC Athletic Directors. The awarded grant submissions are outlined below in no particular order.

1. **University of Miami:** Understanding the Broader Impacts of the Transfer Portal: The Experiences of Support Staff – Alexis Piquero, Jessica Brougham, Elizabeth Taylor (\$6,475)
2. **Southern Methodist University & Clemson University:** Betting, Bullying, and Burnout: Examining Online Harassment from Sport Wagering and Its Impacts on Student-Athletes' Wellbeing and Coping- J. Bo Li, Kevin Byon, Sarah Stokowski (\$5,320)
3. **Stanford:** National Evidence on the Relationship Between Transferring and Academic Outcomes Within Division I Men's College Basketball- Francis Pearman & Kendall Cole (\$5,755)
4. **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill & North Carolina State University:** Perceptions of Gambling and Betting Addictions Among ACC Student-Athletes and Administrators – Colin Lopez, Jackson Sears, Bryan Clift (\$4,450)
5. **Virginia Tech:** Extending the Athlete Brand: NIL Endorsement Fit, Gender Expectations, and Brand Equity - Peter Schlittenhardt & Mario Pandelaere (\$3,000)

Whitepapers from grant recipients will be presented to ACC athletics administrators at the conference's fall meeting in October 2026. The ACC and CRIA are grateful for the continued interest from scholars and the impactful work generated as a result of this grant.



CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS