

View results

Respondent

6 Justin Bean

35:26

Time to complete

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

1

**Please read and acknowledge the following:**

- SSC funding can take **\*\*1 MONTH OR LONGER\*\*** to receive after the SSC has voted to approve a project because it includes several steps:
  - the authorization of an award letter by SSC, iSEE, Division of Student Affairs, the project's advisor (*student-led projects only*), and the project lead;
  - the creation of the CFOP by the project team's departmental financial contact in conjunction with the project team;
  - the transfer of funds from SSC to the project's CFOP.
- If you are a project lead for a new project that is approved by the SSC, be sure to check your email regularly for the prompt to sign the award letter to help facilitate the efficiency of the process.
- Project teams for funded SSC projects do NOT receive funds directly. After a project's SSC funds have been transferred to the project's CFOP, the project team must work with the sponsoring department to purchase the approved budgeted items on behalf of the project team.
- If this project is funded, this application will be shared publicly on our SSC Illinois Climate Action Plan (iCAP) portal so that others can learn from your project.
- Funded projects have grant reporting requirements. See our website for more information.

\*

I acknowledge that I have read this information.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Prior to starting your application, make sure you have the following information available:**

- Project personnel including project lead, confirmed faculty/staff advisor, departmental financial contact, other team members
- Working Group attendance information
- Project title and abstract
- Project description including timelines, deliverables, detailed description about the project, project feasibility information
- Intended student impact(s)
- Intended sustainability impacts
- Optional supporting documentation (e.g., Working Group presentation, letters of support)
- Detailed project budget information

See our website for a sample application.

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Today's Date

10/6/2025 

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Is the Project Lead a currently enrolled Illinois student? \*

**NOTE: Only currently enrolled Illinois students are eligible to be a Project Lead.**

- YES (by selecting YES, you affirm that the Project Lead is a currently enrolled Illinois student)
- NO

4

Project Lead's Name \*

**Project Lead must be a currently enrolled Illinois student.**

Justin Bean

5

Project Lead's University Email Address \*

justin54@illinois.edu

6

Project Lead's Department \*

Student Success Inclusion & Belonging (SSIB)

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Has someone from the project team presented their proposed project at a SSC Working Group meeting this semester? \*

**If not, please attend one and present your project. After presenting your proposed project (and attendance has been documented by the SSC), please return here to complete your application. The Working Group meeting schedule can be found on the SSC website.**

- YES
- NO

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Select the Working Group meeting at which you presented. \*

- Energy + Transportation & Infrastructure Working Group Meeting
- Food & Waste + Land, Air, & Water Working Group Meeting
- Education & Justice Working Group Meeting

9

Enter the date of the Working Group meeting you attended. \*

10

What is the name of your project? \*

11

Total funding requested from the SSC for this project \*

**This application is restricted to students requesting \$10,000 or less. The amount entered here must match the amount reflected in your detailed primary budget spreadsheet that you will submit with this application.**

Please enter a number less than or equal to 10000

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## Project Category \*

- Education & Justice
- Energy
- Food & Waste
- Land, Air & Water
- Transportation & Infrastructure

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## Project Abstract \*

**In 100 words or less, briefly describe the project.**

Native American Heritage Month 2025 at UIUC will feature Dr. Jessica Hernandez, an Indigenous environmental scientist and author, as a keynote speaker. She will participate in a full-day campus visit including a "Dinner on Us" lecture, guest lectures in university courses, and a community welcome event. Her visit will explore Indigenous knowledge systems, climate justice, and environmental stewardship through a culturally grounded lens. Programming is designed to engage students, faculty, and the broader campus community with interdisciplinary learning at intersections of STEM, sustainability, and Indigenous knowledge systems.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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Describe your project in detail. Make sure you include sufficient details about your project so that the SSC can comprehensively evaluate the merits and feasibility of your project. \*

**Be sure to address the following:**

- What are your project's goals and how do you intend to accomplish them?**
- What are your project's deliverables?**

Native American Heritage Month (NAHM) 2025 will highlight the intersection of Indigenous knowledge, STEM, and sustainability through a campus visit from Indigenous environmental scientist and author Dr. Jessica Hernandez. Hosted by the Native American House (NAH), this project centers around Dr. Hernandez's participation in the Dinner on Us (DOU) speaker series, where she will share perspectives on Indigenous science, climate justice, and land-based knowledge systems with UIUC students and the campus community.

In addition to the confirmed DOU event, Dr. Hernandez will take part in a community welcome event as well as two guest lecture engagements. These events will encourage interdisciplinary dialogue across STEM, Indigenous studies, and sustainability fields, advancing visibility of Indigenous voices in science and engineering.

**Project Goals:**

- Showcase Native voices in STEM
- Increase visibility for Native students in science and engineering
- Encourage sustainability practices that are culturally grounded and community-centered
- Create interdisciplinary dialogue between STEM, social justice, and Indigenous studies
- Build institutional and community connections through cross-campus collaboration

**Deliverables:**

- One (1) Dinner on Us speaker event with Dr. Jessica Hernandez
- One (1) Community Welcome Event
- Two (2) Guest Lecturer Appearances\*
- Distribution of glass water bottles and bento boxes to promote reuse and event participation
- Marketing materials, social media promotion.
- Final report to SSC documenting impacts and engagement

\*Subject to faculty availability and final scheduling confirmation.

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List your proposed project’s timeline and major milestones. \*

**NOTE: SSC funding agreements remain active for two years. Thus, your timeline should reflect your activities over a two year period or less.**

August–September 2025:  
 Finalize SSC grant submission (Under \$10,001 category)  
 Begin circulation of promotional materials

September 30, 2025:  
 Present project proposal to the Education & Justice SSC Working Group

October 2025:  
 Begin procurement of sustainability-focused materials (e.g., reusable water bottles, bento boxes)  
 Promote events via NAH newsletter, flyers, and RSO channels (AISES, SACNAS, etc.)  
 Coordinate catering for Dinner on Us

Nov 4, 2025:  
 Host Dinner on Us with Dr. Jessica Hernandez  
 Topic: Indigenous Earthkeeping: The Role of Indigenous Knowledge in Conservation  
 Host Community Welcome Event  
 Additional Guest Speaking Opportunities  
 Distribute Bottles and Bento Boxes at events  
 Document and photograph events; gather student feedback

December 2025:  
 Submit final report to SSC

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Has the project team spoken with UIUC's Division of Facilities and Services (F&S) personnel about the feasibility of the proposed project? \*

**NOTE: While this step is optional for many projects, all projects involving infrastructure (e.g., internal or external physical infrastructure of university buildings) or grounds (e.g., plantings, installing structures on campus grounds) must have F&S approval prior to receiving SSC funding. If you need assistance evaluating the feasibility of your proposed project, please reach out to [SSC-Advisor@illinois.edu](mailto:SSC-Advisor@illinois.edu) PRIOR to submitting your application.**

- YES
- NOT YET
- N/A

## STUDENT IMPACTS

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How many students will be directly impacted by this project? \*

100-200

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How many students will be indirectly impacted by this project? \*

Roughly 500-700 students, through outreach by student orgs (AISES, SACNAS), visibility on campus, classroom promotion, and social media coverage.

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What are the intended student impacts? \*

**At the minimum, be sure to address the following:**

- How will this project benefit students?
- How will students be involved with this project?
- What educational components are there in this project?

Student Benefits:

Increases visibility of Indigenous voices and leadership in STEM and sustainability.  
Provides culturally grounded perspectives on sustainability and innovation not typically present in STEM curriculums.

Student Involvement:

Native American House interns, and student ambassadors will assist in planning, organizing, and promoting events.  
Students will help facilitate logistics, and collect feedback.  
Student organizations will be invited to programming and encouraged to interact with speakers and network with other students in STEM. (AISES, SACNAS).

Educational Components:

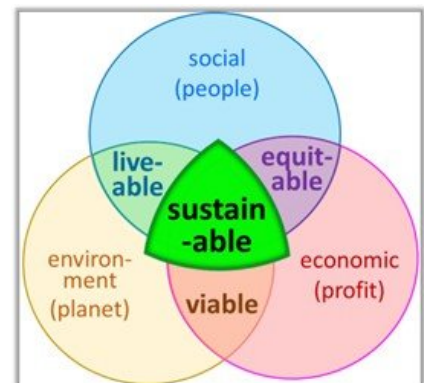
Guest speakers will discuss Indigenous knowledge systems and their application in contemporary STEM disciplines.  
Events will explore themes of climate justice, sustainable technology, environmental stewardship, and equity in research.  
Students will gain interdisciplinary insights into how cultural perspectives inform sustainability and science policy.

## SUSTAINABILITY IMPACTS

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Authentic sustainability consists of the overlapping area of 3 spheres: Environment, Society, and Economy.

Describe how your project addresses sustainability. \*



Environmental (Planet):

Events will spotlight Indigenous-led sustainability practices, such as ecological restoration, and water management. This allows students to connect with community-based approaches to climate resilience and stewardship.

Social (People):

Through inclusive programming like Dinner on Us and the collaboration with CIS, the project centers Native voices in STEM. These events are designed to encourage interdisciplinary learning, strengthen communities, and amplify culturally informed solutions to sustainability challenges.

Economic (Profit):

While the project itself does not generate revenue, it emphasizes long-term economic sustainability by advocating for community-driven solutions to environmental issues. Indigenous models often prioritize resource circularity, land stewardship, and intergenerational sustainability. These practices have long term economic benefits.

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How does your project promote and increase environmental stewardship at UIUC? \*

If applicable, also address what the carbon, water, waste, and/or energy savings is associated with your project.

This project advances environmental stewardship by increasing awareness of Indigenous knowledge systems that emphasize ecological balance, long-term sustainability, and responsibility for future generations to come. While the project's direct resource savings (carbon, water, etc.) are modest, its primary environmental impact is educational and behavioral.

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Does your project aim to advance one or more of the Illinois Climate Action Plan's (iCAP) objectives? If so, indicate which and describe how. If not, enter N/A. \*

A full list can be found here: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/objectives>

This project relates to iCAP Objectives 8.3 and 8.4 by incorporating sustainability into culturally relevant programming. Dr. Jessica Hernandez will share Indigenous approaches to environmental science, all while encouraging inclusive, community-based climate solutions. Her visit will encourage interdisciplinary dialogue which aligns with iCAP's goals for expanded sustainability education.

## FACULTY/STAFF ADVISOR

All student-led projects require a Faculty/Staff Advisor. NOTE: Project teams must obtain confirmation from faculty/staff PRIOR to listing them as an advisor.

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Faculty/Staff Advisor's Full Name \*

Charlotte Davidson

24

Faculty/Staff Advisor's Department \*

Student Success Inclusion & Belonging (SSIB)

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Faculty/Staff Advisor's University Email Address \*

drchar@illinois.edu

## PROJECT'S FINANCIAL CONTACT

The project's Financial Contact must be a full-time Illinois employee who has the authority to request a CFOP, manage the project's expenditures, and generate financial reports on behalf of the project.

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Financial Contact's Full Name \*

Patricia Rosario

27

Financial Contact's Department \*

Student Success Inclusion & Belonging (SSIB)

28

Financial Contact's University Email Address \*

rosario1@illinois.edu

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Are there additional members of your project team? \*

- YES
- NO

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

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OPTIONAL: Please attach any letters of commitment or support here, along with any supplemental media that will support your application (Working Group presentations, photos, etc.).

 [NAHM Speaker Presentation Justin Bean.pdf](#)

## PROJECT FINANCES

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Describe how SSC funds will be used in your project.

**NOTE: Only address the use of SSC funds, specifically, even if the project will be funded by multiple sources.**

SSC funds will be used to support the honorarium for guest speaker Dr. Jessica Hernandez and to purchase reusable bento boxes and glass water bottles for distribution at DOU.

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If additional funding is required to achieve your project's goals, do you have a plan in place to obtain additional funding from other sources? \*

**NOTE: SSC cannot guarantee financial support beyond that provided in an approved funding agreement.**

- YES
- NOT YET
- N/A

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Has your project team or department previously been awarded funding from the SSC for the same or a similar project? \*

- YES
- NO

34

What is the total amount of SSC funding received to date for the same or similar projects by the project team/department submitting this project? \*

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Download, complete, and submit the **SSC-Budget-Timeline\_NEW APPLICATION\_template** file linked below.

<https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/2024-09/SSC-Budget-Timeline-NEW-APPLICATION-template.xlsx>

\*

**Please be very detailed so that the SSC can fully evaluate the merit of your funding request. Your proposed budget should total the amount you are requesting and should correlate well with the the description of how you will spend SSC funds on your project on this application. The budget template allows you to also submit alternative budgets in addition to your main budget.**

 [Native American Heritage Month Speaker Dr. Je. Justin Bean.xlsx](#)