



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Micro Grant Application (Under \$750)

Funding Criteria

A. General Rules

1. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit requests for funding up to \$750. All projects require stakeholder support in order to have funds awarded.
2. Funding can only go to university-affiliated projects on university property submitted from students.
3. All SSC projects must make a substantial impact on students. This may be a direct impact or an indirect impact through education and engagement. All SSC funding is 100% from student green fees, so the projects funded by the students must benefit them.
4. SSC encourages innovation and new technologies – creative projects are encouraged to apply.
5. Unless a type of expense is specifically listed below as having restrictions, SSC can generally fund it. The items referenced below should not be taken as comprehensive.
6. SSC generally won't fund reimbursement requests.

B. Things SSC Can Fund, On A Case-By-Case Basis

1. SSC can fund feasibility studies and design work; however, it must work toward ultimately addressing a sustainability need on campus.
2. SSC can fund outreach events with a central theme of sustainability, provided their primary audience is the general campus community.
3. SSC can fund repairs and improvements to existing building systems as long as it works toward the goal of improving campus sustainability; however, a preference is shown to projects utilizing new or innovative ideas.

C. Things SSC Will Not Fund:

1. SSC will not fund projects with a primary end goal of generating revenue for non-University entities.
2. SSC will not fund personal lodging, food, beverage, and other travel expenses.
3. SSC will not fund tuition or other forms of personal financial assistance for students beyond standard student employee wages.
4. SSC will not fund micro grant proposals that solely request staff, faculty, or student stipends.
5. SSC will not fund capital projects using micro grant funding.
6. SSC will not fund staff or faculty projects using micro grant funding.

Your SSC funding application should include this application and a detailed itemized budget.

Please submit this completed application and any relevant supporting documentation to Sustainability-Committee@illinois.edu. The Working Group Chairs will be in contact with you regarding any questions about the application. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee at sustainability-committee@illinois.edu.

General Information

Project Name:

Total Amount Requested from SSC (\leq \$750):

Project Topic Areas: Land & Water Education Energy
 Transportation Food & Waste

Contact Information

Applicant Name:

Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization):

Email Address:

Check one:

This project is solely my own **OR**

This project is proposed on behalf of (name of student org., campus dept., etc.):

(Optional)

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor:

Advisor's Email Address:

Advisor's Phone Number:

Project Information

Please review the proposal materials and online content carefully. It is highly recommended you visit a working group meeting to talk through your proposal before you submit it.

1) Provide a brief background of the project, its goals, and the desired outcomes.

Illini Hillel Center for Jewish Life on Campus (the Center) has been working toward creating a more sustainable Center for the last few years. Starting with a student driven initiative to purchase and install a filtered, reusable water bottle filler, the Center has been working to improve its environmental impact in more ways. We would like to prepare a locally sourced Sabbath dinner for our community, using that time together to educate the community about our sustainability initiatives.

2) How will this project improve sustainability at UIUC?

Environmental sustainability changes will be first and foremost evident in the Hillel Center building itself, which is a standing element of the UC campus. The programming will then extend our impact beyond the walls of the building and the confines of our own members to many of those students and community members who interact with Illini Hillel in their daily lives. Through our education program and outreach efforts to other campus groups and community members, we hope to inspire a larger network of change striving toward more sustainable practices.

3) Where will the project be located? Do you need special permissions to enact the project at this site? If so, please explain and attach a letter of support to your application.

The project will be located at the Illini Hillel Center for Jewish Life at 503 E. John Street, Champaign, IL. No special permissions are required for this project site.

4) Other than the project team, who will have a stake in the project? Please list other individuals, groups, or departments indirectly or directly affiliated to this project. This includes any funding entities (immediate, future, ongoing, etc.) and any entities that will be benefiting from this project

The Illini Hillel student leaders will continue to run campaigns to raise money for these projects through yearly phone-a-thon campaigns and targeted giving initiatives. We have a number of prospective donors who are highly motivated to support projects that benefit the environment. This will be an ideal opportunity to engage them in our work and communicate to our thousands of supporters nationally that we are focused on sustainability. All of the hundreds of students who utilize the Center each year will be impacted by having a Center that is more environmentally friendly. These efforts will also result in cost savings, an ability to address the growing problem of food insecurity on campus, and as an opportunity to educate our community about the value of sustainable practices, as outlined in greater detail below.

5) How will you ensure the sustained existence/maintenance of this project (including reporting requirements) once you are no longer involved? If the project will conclude while you are involved, what will happen to the materials purchased for the project and how will you return the project site to its original condition?

We hope this will not be a one time project, but a larger mindset evolution in our community. With so many weekly events involving food, ideally there will begin to be a larger conscious conversation on the amount spent on food and how that impacts our experience and the local area and larger world. I will work with involved parties to keep this conversation focused in the mindsets of those making decisions relating to food on campus.

6) Please indicate how this project will involve or impact students. What role will students play in the project?

The initiatives in this project were all brought about by student interest and will continue to be carried out by these student leaders. At Illini Hillel, a "Tzedek" (Hebrew for "Justice") committee meets with Hillel leadership to develop projects and programs that our community can implement to do more good in our local community. This is central to our value of "Tikun Olam" - repairing the world. This committee is responsible for these sustainability initiatives and is spearheading the effort to get more members involved. The benefits to students will start with the increase in education they will receive throughout the course of implementing this work. Publicizing the fact that the building we use daily will be more environmentally conscious will be a great way to promote this initiative and get more people to feel connected to this cause. In the process of using more locally sourced food, we will also be increasing our connection to the local area, helping students in need, and engaging new groups of students who feel pride in this work, creating a more cohesive, healthy and purpose-driven campus community.

7) Have you applied for funding with SSC previously? If so, for what project?

Applied to larger student led project and was encouraged instead to apply for this program here as a micro-grant.

Scope, Schedule, and Budget Verification

What is the plan for project implementation? Describe the key steps of the project including the start date, target completion date, target date for submitting a final report, and any significant tasks or milestones. Please be as detailed as possible.

Educational meal on March 8th on fighting food insecurity and supporting locally grown produce. Every Friday evening, the center hosts a communal meal to welcome the Jewish Sabbath. The event consistently brings in between 100-150 individuals. The student leaders of the community try to use the opportunity of such a large gathering to run educational campaigns and help spread awareness for local and national current topics of interest. Over the course of the year, the center wants to bring awareness about the reality of global food insecurity and specifically campus food insecurity. While looking for ways to get involved in addressing this concern, we also want to encourage the community to make more sustainable and impactful food choices when they can. We want to prepare one of these weekly dinners relying on locally sourced food as much as we can. This dinner will be in the spring - March 8 - to have the most access to locally grown produce.

List all budget items for which funding is being requested. Include cost and total amount for each item requested. Please be as detailed as possible. You are welcome to submit a separate budgeting document.

100 people estimate in attendance for dinner

Cost per person – locally sourced meat, vegetables, and grains: \$6.50 = \$650

If the project is implemented, will there be any ongoing funding required? What is the strategy for supporting the project in order to cover replacement, operation, or renewal costs? (Note: SSC provides funding on a case by case basis and should not be considered as an ongoing source of funding)

The center will not require ongoing funding for this project. The center will use it's other funding mechanism to handle upkeep, replacement and renewal if needed for these initiatives.

Please include any other sources of funding that have been obtained or applied for, and please attach any relevant letters of support.

No other sources of funding have been obtained.

What is the plan for publicizing the project on campus? In addition to SSC, where will information about this project get reported?

Social media and email campaigns will be used to publicize this project. Information on progress will be available on the Illini Hillel website and social media pages.