



STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Funding Application – Step II

Funding Criteria

A. General Rules

1. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to submit requests for funding. Student-led projects require a faculty or staff sponsor in order to have funds awarded.
2. Funding can only go to university-affiliated projects from students, faculty, staff, and departments.
3. All SSC projects must make a substantial impact on students. This may be a direct impact or an 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 list.

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

- SSC can fund feasibility studies and design work; however, it must work toward ultimately addressing a sustainability need on campus.
- SSC can fund staff positions that are related to improving campus sustainability. Strong preference will be given to proposals receiving matching funding from departments and/or plans for maintaining continuity of the position after the end of the initial grant.
- SSC can fund outreach events with a central theme of sustainability, provided their primary audience is the general campus community.
- SSC discourages funding requests for food and prizes but will consider proposals on a case by case basis that prove significant reasoning.
- 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.
- SSC can provide departments with loans for projects with a distinct payback on a case by case base. Loans will require a separate memorandum of understanding between SSC and departmental leadership pledging to repay the award in full and detailing the payback plan.

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 any travel expenses.
4. SSC will not fund tuition or other forms of personal financial assistance for students beyond standard student employee wages.

Your Step 2 funding application should include this application, the supplemental budget form, and any letters of support.

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 & Contact Information

Project Name: Recycling Pods

Total Amount Requested from SSC: \$29,000.00

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

Applicant Name: Hannah Price

Campus Affiliation (Unit/Department or RSO/Organization): Illini Union Director's Office

Email Address: hlprice2@illinois.edu

Check one:

- This project is solely my own **OR**
 This project is proposed on behalf of (name of student org., campus dept., etc.): Illini Union

Project Team Members

Name	Department	Email
Hannah Price	Illini Union Director's Office	Hlprice2@illinois.edu
Dave Guth	Illini Union Director's Office	dcguth@illinois.edu

Student-Led Projects (Mandatory):

Name of Faculty or Staff Project Advisor: Dave Guth

Advisor's Email Address: dcguth@illinois.edu

Financial Contact (Must be a full-time University of Illinois staff member)

Contact Name: Julie Jervis

Unit/Department: Illini Union

Email Address: jjervis1@illinois.edu

Project Information

Please review the proposal materials and online content carefully. It is highly recommended you visit a working group meeting sometime during the proposal submission process.

Please provide a brief background of the project, its goals, and the desired outcomes:

You may copy and paste your Step 1 application answer if nothing has changed.

The Illini Union has purchased 6 outdoor recycling units and 7 indoor units to address the growing need for recycling centers in and around the Union. This project would add an additional 10 recycling bins to the current initiative funded by the Union.

Primary Goals:

- Increase recycling efforts within the Illini Union
- Implement iCAP strategies
- Promote recycling within the Union and across campus
- Encourage individual environmental stewardship
- Divert recyclable products from landfills

Deliverables:

- Increased opportunities for recycling with more bins available
- Strides toward waste reduction
- Increased visibility for recycling efforts

Where will the project be located? Are special permissions required for this project site?

If special permission is required for this location, please explain and submit any relevant letters of support with the application.

The project will be contained within the Illini Union. No special permissions are required for this project site.

Other than the project team, who will have a stake in the project? Please list other individuals, groups, or departments affiliated directly or indirectly by the project. This includes any entity providing funding (immediate, future, ongoing, matching, in-kind, etc.) and any entities that benefit from this project.

Please attach letters of commitment or support at the end of the application.

In addition to the immediate project team, many Illini Union entities are affiliated with this project. University Dining, Illini Union Operations and Facilities, and the Illini Union Board are directly affected by the implementation of new recycling pods around the Union. The building's waste stream and diversion rates are of concern to these departments and have the potential to be improved with the implementation of this project. Campus units and organizations that utilize the Illini Union as a meeting space and event venue are also benefiting from this project. Specifically, the RSOs that use the Student Org Complex in the Union, students that pass through and utilize the building's services, and campus sponsored events.

How will this project involve and/or benefit students?

This includes both direct and indirect impact.

This project is student-led and highly beneficial to the larger student body. With 13,000 people passing through the Illini Union daily, the availability and visibility of recycling receptacles is highly important. Aside from convenience, the bins are reflective of the environmentally conscience student body that utilizes the building. The identity of the Illini Union stems from its function as a student centric entity. The recycling pods benefit students by meeting an increasing need for recycling centers, as well as, ensuring student values are adequately represented.

How will you bring awareness and publicize the project on campus? In addition to SSC, where will information about this project be reported?

Awareness and publicity for the project will be promoted through the Illini Union Marketing Department. The Facebook page and Instagram accounts for the Illini Union reach a large audience and serve as a great platform for showcasing this project. In addition to the SSC, the project will be relayed to the Illini Union Senior Leadership Team, the Illini Union Board, the Marketing Department, and it will be made available to the general student body through the Illini Union website.

Financial Information

In addition to the below questions, please submit the supplemental budget spreadsheet available on the Student Sustainability Committee [website](#). Submission of both documents by the submission deadline is required for consideration of your project.

Have you applied for funding from SSC before? If so, for what project?

I previously applied for funding to implement an LED Conversion project in Illini Union Rooms 104/222.

If this project is implemented, will you require any ongoing funding required? What is the strategy for supporting the project in order to cover replacement, operation, or renewal costs?

Please note that SSC provides funding on a case by case basis annually and should not be considered as an ongoing source of funding.

Costs associated with maintaining the bins are included in the operational budget for the Illini Union. Ongoing funding is not required for this project as the recycling pods require minimal maintenance.

Please include any other obtained sources of funding. Have you applied for funding elsewhere?

Please attach any relevant letters of support as needed in a separate document.

The Illini Union has already purchased and installed 13 recycling pods and invested \$35,000.00 into improving the current recycling efforts in the building.

Environmental, Economic, and Awareness Impacts

How will the project improve environmental sustainability at the Urbana-Champaign campus? If applicable, how does this project fit within any of the [Illinois Climate Action Plan \(iCAP\)](#) goals?

This project increases environmental stewardship by providing the campus community an opportunity to actively participate in eco-friendly behaviors. Individuals that encounter the option to responsibly dispose of bottles/cans/paper are likely to question their personal habits. Recycling is a very easy choice that fosters future environmental stewardship. By encouraging this type of conscious behavior, it is likely that individuals will recycle in the future.

The following iCAP goals are related to this project:

- iCAP Chapter 6.1 Develop and Apply Environmental Purchasing Standards
 - Promote Sustainable Purchasing
 - Max-R recycling bins are made from recycled milk jugs
- iCAP Chapter 6.2: Reduce MSW Landfill Tonnage
 - Raise Recycling Rates across Campus
 - Increase Availability and Visibility of Recycling Bins
 - The bins are substantially more visible and eye catching compared the current bins in the Union

How will you monitor and evaluate the project's progress and environmental outcomes? What short-term and long-term environmental impacts do you expect?

Some examples include carbon emissions, water conservation, green behavior, and reduced landfill waste.

Utilizing a waste 2015 waste audit of the Illini Union and diversion rates associated with the proposed recycling pods we can estimate the associated environmental impacts of this project. On an annual basis approximately **15,000 lbs. of recyclables will be diverted** from the landfill. This is the equivalent of reducing **21.6 metric tons of CO₂** a year. In order to adequately measure the impact and progress of this project a formal waste study should be completed following implementation.

What are your specific outreach goals? How will this project inspire change at UIUC?

The outreach goals associated with this project are rooted in the Illini Union's commitment to increasing waste diversion rates and recycling habits. The Illini Union is a highly trafficked building on campus and serves as a student and community hub. Through the implementation of these recognizable and clearly labeled triple waste stream units, there is a higher likelihood of individuals recycling upon encountering these recycling pods. This project hopes to serve as an example for future recycling revitalization projects across campus. With a stagnant campus waste diversion rate, it is important to focus on new strategies and track the success of project implementation.

If applicable, how does this project impact environmental injustice or social injustice?

This project does not directly impact environmental injustice or social injustice.