Community Impact Grants

$10,000 maximum grant award; minimum amount $2,500
Must be spent by June 30, 2016 (end of fiscal year 2016)

The Provost’s Office of Outreach & Engagement is providing Community Impact Grants to support projects and initiatives across campus that make a significant impact within communities in Iowa and support the engagement goals of the Better Futures for Iowans pillar of the University of Iowa’s Strategic Plan *Renewing the Iowa Promise: Great Opportunities – Bold Expectations, 2010 – 2016*. This grant covers substantive projects that could include service-learning courses, community-based research and scholarship, or staff outreach. This grant is not intended to solely fund field trips, events, or lectures, although these can be components of a larger community engagement project.

Funding Cycles

The Office of Outreach & Engagement will accept applications during two funding cycles in fiscal year 2016. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on the following days:

- Thursday, September 10, 2015
- Thursday, January 7, 2016

Applicants must e-mail grant applications to outreach-engagement@uiowa.edu. Include “Outreach & Engagement Community Impact Grant Application” in the email subject field.

What is the review process?

The Office of Outreach & Engagement has a Grant Review Committee that makes decisions on awarding funds and the level of funding. Partial funding may be awarded. If there is a conflict of interest, members will recuse themselves from the discussion and award decision.

Decisions on funding will be made within ten (10) business days of the grant application due date.

What is the selection criteria for awarding funds?

The Grant Review Committee will consider the following criteria when making its awards:

- Significant community impact; project expands The University’s “public leadership and public contributions to economic and cultural vitality, and to the health and quality of life of the people of Iowa” (The University of Iowa’s Strategic Plan, p. 6).
- Feasibility that the project will be completed by the end of the fiscal year 2016.
- Potential to involve University of Iowa students within the project, either through service-learning, independent study, research, or volunteer hours.
- Long-term sustainability of the project. Does the project provide opportunities for additional community engagement with community partners after this funded project is completed?
- Ability to show supplemental funding from on-campus departments or other funding sources, although matching funds are not required.
What is required of the applicant?

- Applicants must be a University of Iowa faculty or staff member.
- All recipients must have a 240 funding account so that funding can be transferred. **All funds must be spent by June 30th, 2016** (end of the fiscal year 2016). Any funds not utilized will be returned to the Office of Outreach & Engagement. Expenses must be incurred during the fiscal year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016).
- Grant applications must include the following information:
  - Identification of the community or communities that are direct partners on the project. Please be specific and include the name of organizations and businesses, including city governments, non-profit agencies, or community groups.
  - A brief description of the proposed scope of work to be completed (500 words).
  - Timeline for key milestones in the project, including start and completion dates (does not need to be specific day; week or month is sufficient).
  - A project budget, including cost of materials, student participants (interns, research assistants), events, workshops, and source(s) of funding. The Community Impact Grant does not cover faculty and staff salaries.
  - Goals for the project and potential impact that the project will have on community partners and campus partners (including faculty, students, and staff).
  - A plan to assess project outcomes and deliverables once the project is completed.
- A departmental letter (DEO or Dean/Associate Dean) supporting the project is required.

If you receive a Community Impact Grant:

- All publicity and advertising must acknowledge the Office of Outreach & Engagement. Logos will be provided to grant recipients.
- Tag activities onto the Outreach Iowa university events calendar, if applicable.
- Post to #OutreachIowa on social media.
- A report detailing the impact of the work completed within the community must be e-mailed to the Office of Outreach & Engagement (outreach-engagement@uiowa.edu) within 30 days of project completion.

We anticipate awarding up to five (5) Community Impact Grants at a maximum of $10,000 per application cycle. **Applicants may only apply for one Office of Outreach & Engagement grant per funding cycle per project.** Applicants who are not selected during the first round of funding may re-apply during the second round of funding.