Fall 2019 MiniGrant Request for Proposals

The Institute on the Environment (IonE) MiniGrants spur new collaborative efforts by providing small amounts of funding to groups from across the University of Minnesota system (Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, and Twin Cities). The purpose of the program is to seed innovative knowledge initiatives, leadership, education, and storytelling proposals that advance one or more of IonE’s values -- take risks, practice leadership, collaborate, communicate, embrace teamwork and diversity, measure what matters, and honor varied paths. **MiniGrants prioritize proposals that develop new collaborations across disciplines, units, external communities, and campuses.**

MiniGrant periods of performance may last for 6, 12, 18, or 24 months, depending upon the scope of work. The maximum award amount is $3000. **Funds for this round will be released after December 1, 2019.**

**Instructions & Requirements**

The deadline for this round of proposals is **Sunday October 27, 2019** and results will be posted after November 15, 2019. Proposals are submitted through an on-line application. A copy of all questions and word counts may be found here. Each project must have a Principal Investigator (PI) who is a current University of Minnesota staff or faculty member. The PI’s department will administer any awarded funds and ensure that the funds are used as described in the proposal. If a student wishes to lead a project, the student must have a faculty or staff collaborator who will serve as PI. Additionally, the PI must provide a brief letter of support for the student’s application. All awarded projects will be required to submit a final report upon the project’s conclusion.

**Evaluation**

Proposals should be written to a general audience and will be evaluated using this rubric. Please note that the rubric is substantially different from previous MiniGrants.

**The Fine Print**

MiniGrants do not fund: faculty or staff salary (including course buy-outs); activities that are associated with ongoing departmental, extra-curricular, or research programs; equipment; or any unallowable costs per UMN policy. Proposals requesting more than $3,000 will be rejected without review. Any unused funds will be returned to IonE after the period of performance has ended. Proposed work must comply with all UMN policies, including ethical and regulatory standards. Please consult the **OVPR Ethics and Compliance Overview** prior to proposal development to ensure compliance. Any proposals requiring IRB or IACUC approval must indicate pending or approval status in their proposal; if selected and IRB or IACUC approval is required for this research, approval documentation must be provided to IonE prior to the award of funding.

For additional information, please contact Jennifer Thissen, Institute on the Environment Grants and Contracts Coordinator, at this0017@umn.edu.