

Mini Grant Request for Proposals

Institute on the Environment Mini Grants are designed to support and spark collaborative projects addressing environmental and sustainability issues across the University of Minnesota five-campus system, Extension, and outreach centers. These grants of up to \$3,000 may be used for a range of research, leadership, education, storytelling, and outreach activities.

(Visit [here](#) to see previous winners). Proposals that advance new collaborations – across disciplines and ways of knowing, among partners and people – are highly encouraged.

Periods of performance may last 6, 12, 18, or 24 months, depending upon the scope of work. The maximum award is \$3,000.



Instructions & Requirements

- All proposals must be [submitted through our online portal](#).
- Applicants are encouraged to [review the evaluation rubric](#); application questions and word counts are [also available for preview](#).
- Each project must have a principal investigator (PI) who is a current UMN staff or faculty member. The PI's department will administer awarded funds and ensure that the funds are used as described in the proposal.
- UMN students who wish to lead a project must have a faculty or staff collaborator who will serve as PI and who will provide a letter of support for the application.
- All awarded projects are required to submit a final report upon the project's conclusion.

The Fine Print

Mini Grants cannot be used to fund faculty or staff salary (including course buy-outs); activities associated with ongoing departmental, extracurricular, or research programs; the purchase of equipment; or any other 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.

Please also note that proposed work must comply with all UMN policies, including ethical and regulatory standards. [Consult the OVPR Ethics and Compliance Overview](#) to ensure compliance. Proposals requiring IRB or IACUC approval must indicate pending or approval status in their proposal; if selected, approval documentation must be provided to IonE prior to the award of funding. Please [see the Mini Grant Terms & Conditions](#) for further details guiding the funding and oversight of all Mini Grant projects.

For additional information, please email IonE-mg@umn.edu

