

INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Impact Goals

2026 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



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If you have questions that have not been addressed in this document or by the [FAQ](#), need assistance accessing this document, or require a reasonable accomodation for any part of the application process, please contact: ione-grants@umn.edu

Got questions? Visit this [FAQ](#), which will be updated with answers to common questions until the proposal deadline.





Introduction

The Impact Goals initiative is the Institute on the Environment’s signature investment in outcomes-driven, community-engaged work. Each year, we support teams advancing sustainability in Minnesota – producing insights that inform solutions worldwide. By investing in teams closest to the challenges we face, Impact Goal grants accelerate measurable progress where it matters most: in communities, ecosystems, and decision spaces across our state, region, and world.

Since 2019, IonE has competitively awarded more than \$5.5 million to teams working across research, education, communication, and community engagement. In 2024, we broadened our investment portfolio from three focal topics to 10 interconnected domains – spanning adaptation, clean energy, biodiversity, food systems, environmental justice, decision support, planetary health, and more (see page 8).

This diversification has allowed us to better reflect the depth of expertise across the University of Minnesota and to respond with greater agility to the needs identified by communities, partners, and practitioners. Our aim remains consistent: to support interdisciplinary collaborators who are ready to overcome barriers to sustainability and deliver meaningful outcomes.

Reflecting our mandate as a public research university, all Impact Goal grants are Minnesota-forward. Projects must demonstrate a clear and compelling connection to our state: by being conducted here, by directly informing sustainable strategies with regional relevance, or by generating transferable knowledge that strengthens Minnesotans’ capacity to act. We also encourage teams to use the University as a living laboratory for piloting ideas, testing solutions, and informing institutional change.

We invest in collaborative teams advancing measurable, Minnesota-rooted solutions – work that strengthens our region and inspires progress far beyond our borders.

JESSICA HELLMANN
IONE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our approach centers community-engaged scholarship and draws on many forms of expertise. We prioritize proposals that demonstrate meaningful partnerships, elevate underrepresented voices, and build shared ownership of both the work and its impacts.

Most importantly, each project must define a specific impact goal – the measurable, Minnesota-relevant outcome it seeks to advance – and articulate how the proposed work will meaningfully move the needle. By defining outcomes at the project level, we empower teams to design the pathways that will drive real change.

Quick Facts

AWARDED ANNUALLY

\$1M+

TYPICAL AWARD SIZE

\$50K–\$200K

DURATION

1–2 years

DEADLINES

Jan. 20, 2026
Webinar

Feb. 9, 2026
Statement of Intent

Mar. 9, 2026
Proposal

May 5 & 6, 2026
Finalist Project Pitches

June 1, 2026
Award Selections Announced

July 1, 2026
Period of Performance Begins

FUNDING SOURCES

Funding for Impact Goal grants comes from IonE’s **core grantmaking portfolio** and **MnDRIVE Environment** – a University–State of Minnesota partnership that aligns research strengths with statewide priorities – as well as **philanthropic gifts** and **University investments** made in recognition of the portfolio’s role as a strategic lever for advancing sustainability priorities.

Research Priorities

The Impact Goals initiative supports scholarship that is collaborative, community-engaged, and oriented toward measurable outcomes. Each team identifies the Minnesota-relevant outcome their project will advance – and the barriers that stand in the way. This approach grounds scholarship in real needs and positions teams to drive meaningful, durable impact across our state.

This model is a deliberate shift in catalyzing scholarship – beginning with the change a team wants to advance, not only the question they want to explore. This “outcomes orientation” helps teams focus their work, articulate why it matters for Minnesota, and design strategies capable of moving the needle on complex challenges.

Impact Goal projects take many scholarly forms – from research and discovery to education, communication, and community-engaged

approaches – but all must be grounded in a clear research question and designed to advance a defined outcome. Each project must also align with one or more of IonE’s 10 sustainability domains (*see page 8*), which serve as anchor points for defining meaningful progress.

Across all domains and modalities, we support teams who bring creativity, rigor, and diverse forms of expertise to test ideas, build solutions, and generate knowledge that strengthens

sustainability pathways. All proposals must include substantive partnership outside the University, along with a clear connection to Minnesota – whether grounded in place, relevance, or applicability. This reflects our commitment, as a public research university, to ensuring scholarship benefits communities, ecosystems, and decision spaces across the state – while generating insights and solutions that can be applied far and wide.

AUTHENTIC PARTNERSHIPS

Meaningful partnership is foundational to Impact Goal projects. We expect teams to collaborate with non-University partners throughout the lifecycle of the work – from shaping goals and approaches to interpreting findings and supporting implementation. Community-engaged scholarship recognizes that many forms of knowledge matter and that solutions gain strength when built with the people positioned to use them. Strong proposals articulate how partners will contribute expertise, share decision-making, and benefit from the work.

IN MINNESOTA, FOR THE WORLD

All Impact Goal projects must also demonstrate a clear connection to Minnesota. This connection may be direct – for example, by piloting a solution, advancing a policy-relevant framework, or addressing a community-identified challenge within the state. It may also be indirect, such as conducting research elsewhere that generates knowledge essential to Minnesota’s sustainability pathways.

We also encourage teams to think of the University as a “living lab,” applying insights to campus operations, educational environments, or institutional planning. Across all of these approaches, projects should build knowledge, evidence, or solutions that strengthen sustainability outcomes locally and contribute to global understanding of how those challenges can be addressed elsewhere.



SEEDING PARTNERSHIPS

The Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP) are a key partner in advancing Impact Goals-aligned research. With deep community relationships across Greater Minnesota, RSDP helps teams identify potential partners, refine project ideas, and connect proposals to community-defined priorities. Many successful Impact Goal projects have begun with RSDP introductions or seed collaborations – a shared commitment to community-engaged research that strengthens sustainability outcomes statewide.

DEVELOPING PROPOSALS

IonE offers **proposal-development coaching** to help teams clarify their impact goal, strengthen community engagement plans, and design approaches aligned with Impact Goals expectations. Coaching can support early-stage ideation, proposal framing, and partnership strategy. Applicants may also request consultation with the Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP), whose staff provide regionally grounded insight and help teams explore potential community partners across Minnesota.

Connect with us at ione-grants@umn.edu

Domain Focus Areas

Impact Goal domains outline the areas where IonE seeks to accelerate sustainability progress. They reflect challenges of critical importance in Minnesota and areas where the University brings distinctive capacity, depth, and leadership. Projects must advance work within one or more of these 10 domains, which together guide our investment strategy and help teams define meaningful, outcome oriented pathways forward. Teams select one primary domain, which most applies to their work, and up to two secondary domains.



ADAPTATION
Building resilience to climate and environmental changes



FOOD SYSTEMS
Creating sustainable, resilient, and equitable food networks



BIODIVERSITY
Protecting and restoring ecosystems and species diversity



MITIGATION
Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and slowing climate change



CLEAN ENERGY
Advancing renewable energy technologies and adoption



NATURAL CAPITAL
Recognizing and valuing the economic and ecological services nature provides



DECISION SUPPORT
Developing tools, data, and methods to guide better choices for sustainability



PLANETARY HEALTH
Linking human health and environmental well-being



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
Addressing inequities in how environmental burdens and benefits are distributed



WATER & LAND
Managing natural resources sustainably for people and ecosystems

Types of Research We Fund

Impact Goal projects may take many forms, but all must articulate a clear impact goal and a strategy for advancing measurable outcomes. We fund work across three interconnected modes of scholarship – research and discovery, education and learning innovation, and communication and public engagement – recognizing that progress often requires integrated efforts across these areas.



RESEARCH & DISCOVERY
We fund research that generates new knowledge, develops or tests solution pathways, evaluates interventions, or advances tools and methods that strengthen sustainability decision-making. Projects may include basic or applied research, modeling, field studies, design and demonstration, or other forms of inquiry grounded in rigorous methods.



EDUCATION & LEARNING INNOVATION
We also support education-focused research projects that develop or evaluate curricula, experiential learning opportunities, professional development programs, or pedagogical innovations that advance sustainability knowledge and build capacity. Projects must demonstrate scholarly grounding, clear learning outcomes, and a plan for assessing impact over time.



COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH
We also fund communications research that identifies, tests, or scales strategies for public engagement, narrative framing, audience insights, or science communication. Projects may include storytelling, media development, framing analysis, or other communication approaches designed to accelerate adoption, understanding, or action on sustainability solutions.



Benefits to Funded Teams

Being awarded an Impact Goal grant gives teams the opportunity to pursue meaningful interdisciplinary work with partners inside and outside the University, drawing on diverse perspectives to advance sustainability outcomes in Minnesota and beyond. Doing this work is a benefit in its own right – and grantees also receive additional support that strengthens their projects and extends their impact.

Impact Goal grantees benefit from lonE’s integrated approach to supporting outcomes-oriented scholarship. Each funded team has access to an lonE grant coach who provides guidance throughout the project, from partnership development to project management and documentation of outcomes. Grantees also become part of the broader lonE community through

events, shared learning opportunities, and connections with other funded teams. In addition, lonE’s public-interest communications team helps grantees share their work with wider audiences, positioning research insights to inform practice, policy, and public understanding. Together, these supports help teams strengthen their projects and carry their work forward.

SUPPORT & STEWARDSHIP

Impact goal grantees receive ongoing support from a grant coach at lonE to guide them through the process from award letter to final report. This includes attention to navigating community partnerships, project management and budgeting, identifying and pursuing additional funding opportunities, and troubleshooting issues that may arise along the way. We are here to help your grant be successful and impactful.



COMMUNITY

Grantees are also welcomed into the lonE community, a growing network of researchers, educators, communicators, practitioners, and other thought leaders working to address pressing societal issues. You’ll be connected with this network through events, including the lonE Annual Meeting, and have opportunities to develop your own capacities through professional development hosted by lonE. Teams are also connected with other awardees, which can provide the foundation for subsequent collaborations.



IMPACT COMMUNICATIONS

lonE’s public-interest communications team works with grantees to ensure their research reaches audiences who can use it. Support may include coaching, story development, or guidance on conveying complex ideas in clear, compelling ways. Rather than focusing on promotion, lonE emphasizes translating research into insights that inform practice, policy, and public understanding. Grantees are encouraged to integrate communications planning from the outset, with lonE offering support along the way.



Funding & Eligibility

Impact Goal grants provide flexible funding to support interdisciplinary, outcomes-oriented scholarship focused on critical environmental and sustainability challenges. Awards are structured to give teams the resources and runway they need to carry out research that moves a clearly defined outcome forward.

The Impact Goals initiative is supported by multiple funding sources – including IonE’s core grantmaking budget, MnDRIVE Environment, philanthropic gifts, and targeted University investments – all aligned around a shared purpose: accelerating sustainability solutions with relevance for Minnesota and the broader world. This structure enables IonE to pool resources, take a portfolio approach to driving impact, and support interdisciplinary teams whose work addresses complex challenges facing communities, ecosystems, and decision-makers across scales.

IMPACT GOALS AT-A-GLANCE



CATALYZING THE FUTURE OF FOOD

Since 2021, the [Seeding The Future van Lengerich Foundation](#) has provided philanthropic support for innovative research projects addressing food systems challenges through the Institute on the Environment. This support continues in the 2026 Impact Goals funding cycle, advancing food systems projects in Minnesota and beyond.

ELIGIBILITY

To ensure interdisciplinary and impact-oriented teams, all proposals must meet the following eligibility criteria:

LEAD APPLICANT/PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Must be a University faculty member or P&A staff member in a continuing or long-term role.

TEAM COMPOSITION

Must include academic collaborators from at least two different disciplinary fields, along with at least one community partner, all in substantive roles (such as co-PI).

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Must represent an external organization (business, government, nonprofit, Tribal, or other) and play a substantive, clearly defined role in the project. With rare exceptions (such as self-employed), stand-alone individuals do not fulfill the external partner requirement.

STUDENTS & POSTDOCS

May participate and receive support, but proposals cannot be student- or postdoc-led. Postdocs may serve as co-PIs only if they have accepted a PI-eligible University position.

UNIVERSITY ELIGIBILITY

Faculty and staff from all five UMN campuses and Extension may apply.

EXTERNAL ACADEMIC COLLABORATORS

Team members from other universities or colleges are welcome, but do not count as “community partners.”

Allowable Costs & Cost Sharing

ALLOWABLE COSTS

- Salary for PI/co-PIs, staff, postdocs, grad/undergrad students
- Community partner compensation
- Travel
- Non-capital equipment (<\$5,000 total per purchase including invoice and make-ready)
- Other traditional project expenses (i.e. labs, imaging, instrumentation, sample processing, etc.)

UNALLOWABLE COSTS

- Capital equipment or any equipment purchases exceeding \$5,000
- Computers and/or laptops

Refer to [University policy](#) for further guidance.

COST SHARING

Cost share or in-kind support is not required or expected, and it will not factor into proposal decisions.



Important Deadlines At-a-Glance

WEBINAR

January 20, 2026
12–12:45 p.m. CT

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Due February 9, 2026

PROPOSAL

Due March 9, 2026

FINALIST PROJECT PITCHES

May 5 & 6, 2026

Competitive Call for Proposals

This competitive call invites interdisciplinary teams to propose bold, partner-engaged projects that advance a clearly defined sustainability impact goal. We invest in work that addresses barriers, strengthens pathways to solutions, and contributes meaningfully in Minnesota and beyond.

Projects should identify a specific barrier to progress, outline a rigorous and feasible approach, and demonstrate strong collaboration across disciplines and with community partners. Medium proposals typically request \$25K–\$99K; large proposals request \$100K–\$200K. Awards are non-recurring and must be expended within two years, beginning July 1, 2026.

PROPOSAL

Proposals are submitted through an [online application form](#). The form collects basic information about the team, proposal title, amount requested, a 50–100 word statement of the project’s impact goal (i.e., the specific outcome your project aims to advance), topical focus, and administrative details needed to process awards. Uploaded documents must use 11-point font or larger (Times New Roman or Arial) with 1-inch margins. Detailed instructions for parts 1–4 of the proposal are provided on the following pages.

SUBMISSION

Proposal materials should be submitted as a single compiled PDF (parts 1–3 in order), with the budget submitted separately as a spreadsheet, by 11:59 p.m. CT on March 9, 2026. Both files will be uploaded through the online application form. The form will automatically close at the deadline and will not accept late submissions; we strongly recommend submitting early to avoid technical issues.

FINALIST PITCHES

Finalist teams will be invited to an interactive, second-round review on May 5 or 6, 2026. Teams will provide a 10-minute presentation followed by 10–15 minutes of Q&A with reviewers. All team members, including community partners, are expected to participate. To support broad engagement, all presentations will be held virtually via Zoom.

IonE will work with finalist teams to schedule a 30-minute time slot; times are not guaranteed until confirmed, so we encourage teams to reserve both dates. Prior to the second-round review, finalists will receive detailed instructions about the pitch process, including comments or questions from first-round reviewers and any requested refinements to proposals. These materials are intended to help teams prepare a clear, compelling presentation that reflects both the rigor of the project and the strength of the partnership.

QUICK LINKS

[STATEMENT OF INTENT FORM](#)

[BUDGET TEMPLATE](#)

(Google sheet)

[PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM](#)

COMPONENTS OVERVIEW

PART 1:

Cover Page
(1 page)

PART 2:

Proposal Description
(5 pages)

Citations

(no page limit)

PART 3:

Project Management Description
(1 page)

Résumé or CV

for each team member
(1-2 pages per member,
no total page limit)

PART 4:

Budget Documentation
(no page limit)



Detailed Requirements

PART 1: COVER PAGE

Proposal should include a cover page (1 page) with the following information:

☐ **PROJECT TITLE**

A concise, descriptive title that reflects the core focus or objective of the project.

☐ **PROJECT LEADER AND TEAM MEMBERS**

List the project leader (PI) and all team members. For each person, include: name, title, affiliation, and email address. Include postdocs and students if known.

☐ **TEAM COMPOSITION**

Briefly summarize the composition of your team:

- The project lead must be a University tenure-track faculty member, contract faculty member, or P&A staff in a continuing or long-term role.
- Teams must include University partners from at least two disciplinary fields.
- Teams must include at least one non-University partner in a substantive, clearly defined role; with rare exceptions, partners must represent an organization (not an unaffiliated individual).

☐ **IMPACT GOAL STATEMENT**

- Provide a brief paragraph (50–100 words) stating the project-level impact goal.
- Indicate which of IonE’s 10 domains the project addresses. Select one primary domain and up to two secondary domains.

PART 2: PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Maximum 5 pages, including graphics; citations excluded.

☐ **PROBLEM STATEMENT & OBJECTIVE**

Describe the barrier standing in the way of the outcome your project seeks to advance within your selected domain(s). This may include knowledge gaps; policy, governance, or market constraints; communication or behavioral barriers; leadership or capacity limitations; or other structural and systems challenges. If the primary activities occur outside Minnesota, clearly articulate how the work will benefit Minnesota, given the state’s sustainability context and needs. Then describe your project objective:

- What will your project do?
- How will it address the identified barrier?
- What impact do you intend to achieve if successful?

☐ **PROJECT PLAN & APPROACH**

Describe how your team will pursue the project objective and work to overcome the identified barrier. Outline the methods, activities, or strategies you will use, and explain why these approaches are well-suited to the problem you aim to address.

Briefly summarize the evidence or reasoning that supports your plan. If relevant, explain how this work is new for your team or represents a meaningful pivot from previous work. Briefly note how your interdisciplinary team and community partners are positioned to carry out this approach.

☐ **PRODUCTS/OUTPUTS & INTENDED IMPACT**

Describe the *tangible products or outputs* your project will generate and explain how these products contribute to the broader outcome you aim to advance.

Outline the *anticipated outcomes and impacts* of the work, both during the project period and in the years that follow. If relevant, discuss how project’s insights or approaches could be applied or adapted in other places or contexts. Identify *who stands to benefit* and in what ways. Describe your plan for continuing and *growing the project’s impact* after the grant period and how the work may catalyze additional opportunities, implementation pathways, or external funding.

Finally, explain how you will *assess progress* toward your intended outcome – during the project and 3–5 years after its conclusion – using qualitative and/or quantitative measures appropriate to your field.

☐ **CITATIONS**

No page limit. Should be formatted fully and consistently (e.g., APA or MLA), though no specific citation style is required.



PART 3: SUPPORTING DETAILS

☐ **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

One page total. Provide a clear and concise description of how your team will work together to carry out the project. This section should outline the overall management approach, describe how decisions will be made, and explain how partners will stay coordinated throughout the project.

Describe the role of each team member – including community partners – and how their expertise contributes to achieving the project goals. Identify any existing resources the team will draw upon (such as prior experience, equipment, datasets, facilities, tools, or established partnerships) that strengthen the feasibility of the work.

Note: This section should focus on how the team will collaborate and manage the work. Descriptions of research methods or technical approaches should be included in the Project Plan & Approach.

☐ **RÉSUMÉ OR CVs**

1–2 pages per team member; no total page limit. Each named team member should provide a résumé or CV that highlights experience and expertise relevant to the proposed project. There is no prescribed format; applicants may use the structure common to their field.

For academic team members: Materials typically include name, position and title, education, professional appointments, publications, and significant work products and/or outcomes (broadly defined), along with any other content relevant to the proposal.

For team members outside academia: Materials ideally include current and prior roles; major responsibilities within those roles; significant projects, outputs, or accomplishments; educational background; and any other information that demonstrates expertise and contributions relevant to the proposed work.

Résumés and CVs should clearly convey each team member’s role, experience, and capacity to contribute to the project.

PART 4: BUDGET DOCUMENTATION

☐ **BUDGET DESCRIPTION**

No page limit; submitted separately as a PDF. Your budget should reflect the funding needed to complete the proposed work. Budgets may include salary support for project leaders and team members (including students); compensation for community partners; travel; supplies and materials; and other project-related expenses. Funding may not be used for capital equipment or for purchasing computers for staff use. IonE will defer to collegiate and unit-level policies regarding allowability of expenditures.

Budgets should follow the provided [template](#). Make a copy of the template before entering your information.

- Tab 1 includes the budget table.
- Tab 2 includes space for the budget justification.

When exporting to PDF, select landscape orientation and “fit to width/page” to ensure that each tab prints clearly on a single page.

Funds may be used to support non-University partners. Compensation for external contributors is typically arranged through a Contract for Professional Services (CPS) and should align with the work proposed.

Project start date: July 1, 2026

☐ **BUDGET JUSTIFICATION**

On Tab 2, provide a brief justification (approximately 1–3 sentences per line item) describing why each cost is necessary for the proposed work. Justifications should be clear and proportional – concise but sufficiently detailed to demonstrate feasibility.

If any team members or organizations will contribute formal or informal in-kind support essential to the project, please include this information in the justification. In-kind support is not required or expected, and it will not factor into proposal decisions; however, this information helps reviewers assess the overall feasibility of the project.





Criteria for Evaluation & Review

Impact Goal proposals are evaluated on the following criteria. Reviewers assess each proposal holistically, with particular attention to clarity of purpose, rigor of approach, strength of partnerships, and the project’s potential to advance meaningful sustainability outcomes in Minnesota and beyond.

ALIGNMENT WITH IMPACT GOAL DOMAINS AND OUTCOMES

- The project clearly advances a sustainable future in one or more of the 10 Impact Goal domains.
- The proposal articulates a specific impact goal and identifies a well-defined barrier that the project seeks to address.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STRENGTH AND PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

- The team brings together expertise from multiple disciplinary fields.
- The project includes substantive collaboration with non-University partners, with clear and meaningful roles.
- Partnerships reflect mutual benefit, shared purpose, and integration throughout the project lifecycle.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- Engage historically excluded people or marginalized communities in meaningful ways.
- Bring new or underrepresented stakeholders into sustainability problem-solving.
- Use approaches intended to address or reduce inequitable sustainability pathways.

OUTPUTS, OUTCOMES, AND PATHWAYS TO IMPACT

- The proposal clearly describes the expected products and outputs, the anticipated outcomes, and the intended impact.
- The project addresses how its insights or results may be applied, adapted, or scaled in other contexts.
- Teams articulate plausible pathways for sustaining or growing impact following the grant.

INNOVATION, RIGOR, AND CONTRIBUTION

- The project represents new work, a significant new chapter, or a meaningful pivot from prior efforts (i.e., funds do not simply augment existing funded work).
- Methods and approaches are rigorous, well-reasoned, and appropriate to the problem being addressed.
- The project has potential to generate insights, solutions, or approaches that contribute to sustainability challenges in Minnesota and beyond.

FEASIBILITY AND TEAM CAPACITY

- The team’s expertise, roles, and management plan demonstrate clear capacity to carry out the work.
- The project plan is achievable within the proposed timeline.
- The budget and justification are reasonable for the scope and scale of the project.

POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE GROWTH

- The project shows potential to catalyze additional opportunities, including future external funding, expanded partnerships, or scaled impact.

PORTFOLIO CONSIDERATIONS

After individual proposal evaluation, final funding decisions will also consider the overall balance of the Impact Goals portfolio, including:

- Representation across the 10 domain areas
- Geographic range and relevance
- Societal relevance and potential impact
- Inclusion of teams from across University of Minnesota campuses, colleges/units, and departments

Submission Timeline

Date	Description
January 12, 2026	Release of Request for Proposals
January 20, 2026	Informational Webinar, 12–12:45 p.m. CT
February 9, 2026	Deadline: Statement of Intent , due via Google Forms, closes at 11:59 p.m. CT
March 9, 2026	Deadline: Full Proposal Submission , due via Google Forms, closes at 11:59 p.m. CT
March 16 – 29, 2026	Peer review of RFP responses, conducted by an interdisciplinary panel of scholars and community representatives using the evaluation criteria included in this RFP.
April 10, 2026	All teams notified of status. Finalist teams will be invited to make a presentation to a panel for the final award decision. Teams may also be asked to clarify or amend their proposals.
April 20, 2026	Finalist Informational Webinar, 12–12:45 p.m. CT
Week of April 27, 2026	<i>Optional:</i> Finalist PIs/teams may schedule 30-minute coaching sessions with Melissa Kenney, IonE director of research.
May 5 & 6, 2026	Save the Date: Finalist team presentations, conducted virtually with a review panel. Finalist teams should hold 8 a.m.–5 p.m. CT until their time is confirmed.
June 1, 2026	Finalist award selections and official announcement
July 1, 2026	Period of performance begins.

Summary of Important Links

Frequently Asked Questions.....[z.umn.edu/IG26-FAQ](#)
Statement of Intent Submission Form [z.umn.edu/IG26-SOI](#)
Proposal Application Form.....[z.umn.edu/IG26-Application](#)
Budget Template [z.umn.edu/IG26-Budget](#)

If you have questions about your specific proposal idea or anything that has not been addressed by this document or our [FAQ](#), please contact: ione-grants@umn.edu.

The [FAQ](#) will be updated with answers to questions until the proposal deadline.



Read about the
2025 Impact Goal
winners here →



