The University of Akron
Service-Learning Mini-Grant Application

2015

Create Real Impact Through Service-Learning and Community Engagement.

With support from the Knight Foundation, service-learning mini-grants are available to faculty for incorporating service-learning into coursework. Projects must involve students and an active community partner or partners from the Akron area. Applicants can request up to $1,000 each semester.

Proposal Process, Selection Criteria and Awarding of Funds:

To be considered for a grant, submit the following materials and information:

I. Cover Letter
   - Name and signature of applicant(s)
   - Title, course description, and dates of course
   - List of all community partners involved

II. Meaningful Connection to Discipline
   Include a complete description of the service-learning project and an explanation of how the project relates to your course learning goals and objectives by identifying the expected learning outcomes of the project. Describe and explain all expenses to be covered by the mini-grant.

III. Partnership and Reciprocity
   Explain how the project addresses community problems and the potential value of the project to faculty, students and the community.

IV. Reflection
   Describe how student reflection will be incorporated into your class.

V. Assessment and Evaluation
   Define methods for evaluating the service-learning section of the course and for disseminating information about the service-learning experience. Include a description of expected learning outcomes and how they will be measured.

   The following evaluation criteria will be used:
   - Extent to which student involvement is service-learning
   - Extent to which the project addresses community needs
   - Level of involvement by the community partner(s)
   - Sustainability of the community engagement beyond the initial grant period
   - Clarity of stated learning outcomes

Proposals should be submitted 2-3 months before expected completion, and will be evaluated within 2 weeks of each submission. Grants can be awarded for projects in, or around, Akron, Ohio.

A final report summarizing the project, and including student pre and post-tests (supplied by ITL), is due within 4 weeks of the completion of the course.

For questions or to submit an application:
Contact Theresa S. Beyerle, Ph.D. Associate Director, Institute for Teaching and Learning, 330.972.2154, email tsb4@uakron.edu, or visit www.uakron.edu/itl/sl.