



# Office of Civic Engagement

## CSU's Engaged Learning Enhancement Grant Application

Name:

College:

Please check the grant category for which you are applying:

- Faculty Civic Enhancement Grant
- Faculty Civic Innovation Grant
- Student Organization Grant
- Central Neighborhood Alliance Grant
- Civic Oriented Research Grant

*Please answer each question in 100 words or less.*

1. **Briefly describe your project.**
  
2. **Community relevance:** Does your initiative address a need or opportunity that the community has identified?
  
3. **Community benefit:** How will residents, a neighborhood/city or an organization directly benefit from your initiative?
  
4. **Student benefit:** Are students active participants in the initiative and how will they benefit?
  
5. **Engaged scholarship:** Is the program specifically tied to a course and/or a research project?
  
6. **Level of partnership:** Does a community partner (organization or leader) share in the responsibility, accountability and/or authority of the initiative?

- 7. Effective use of funds\*:** How, specifically, will you use the \$2,500 (or \$5000) to enhance, expand and/or sustain your project?
  
- 8. Previous Awardee:** Have you previously received CSU's Engage Learning Enhancement Grant? If yes, briefly describe the project in which you were awarded.



# Office of Civic Engagement

## **2015-16 Civic Engagement Grant Program**

The Civic Engagement Grant Program recognizes faculty and student leaders who truly embody Cleveland State University's passion for Engaged Learning by creatively connecting classroom, campus and community. Through a competitive process, faculty members, Center Directors and student organizations will be selected to receive grants in amounts of \$2500-\$5000. The best proposals are interdisciplinary, promote citizen participation and authority, and allow for student research. The Civic Engagement Grants affirm and enhance current work being conducted by faculty, staff and students while encouraging others to embrace the benefits of Engaged Learning for student success, community enhancement and ultimately benefiting the entire region.

### **Administered by the Office of Civic Engagement**

The Office of Civic Engagement provides support to faculty, students, staff and administrators that allow them develop, expand, and sustain collaborative, mutually beneficial partnerships with community residents, organizations and institutions. These partnerships contribute to student learning and academic scholarship while contributing to the social and economic well-being of Cleveland, its neighborhoods and the Northeast Ohio region. From one-time volunteer experiences for students to service-learning projects embedded in the curriculum to long-term collaborative partnerships that tackle the community's toughest challenges, the Office of Civic Engagement helps campus and community maximize the benefits of their interdependence.

### **What is Civic Engagement**

"Civic engagement" describes activities between CSU and the larger community beyond campus – the City of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio, as well as state, national and global – for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity. These partnerships add to student learning and academic scholarship while contributing to the social and economic well-being of Cleveland, its neighborhoods and Northeast Ohio.

### **Highlights from 2014 Civic Grant Program**

- 31 faculty members awarded \$2500 grants
- 4 faculty members awarded \$5000 grants in support of the Central Neighborhood Alliance
- 4 student organizations awarded \$2500 grants
- Over 200 CSU students directly impacted/participated
- Over 2000 Cuyahoga County residents directly impacted/participated
- Leveraged tens of thousands of additional dollars
- Over 55 community organizations or companies participated
- Many new connections made between CSU and organizations within Cuyahoga County
- New connections made between faculty across disciplines

This year's grant program will support five distinct grant categories. The categories have different application deadlines and implementation expectations. Please review the grant categories below to determine which is most appropriate for you to apply.

## **Faculty Civic Enhancement Grants**

**4 grants available at \$2500**

Faculty Civic Enhancement Grants are grants intended to support the work of faculty on projects or initiatives that are already planned to occur in the Spring or Summer of 2015. These projects should best exemplify civic engagement and can occur in partnership with Grassroots or faith-based organizations, nonprofit institutions, local businesses, government agencies and offices or other public institutions such as public schools and libraries.

***Application Deadline: January 22, 2016***

*Project Delivery/Implementation: Spring/Summer 2016*

## **Faculty Civic Innovation Grants**

**4 grants available at \$2500**

Faculty Civic Innovation Grants are designed to support innovative collaborations between CSU faculty and community based organizations, local businesses, other public institutions or governmental agencies. Innovation grants are intended to encourage careful consideration of a local or regional challenge. The intention is to provide support to faculty as they seek to create innovative and creative ways to explore the identified challenge in the classroom. The grant is an opportunity to have students more deeply consider how what they learn in the classroom can be directly applied to the benefit of Greater Cleveland. Methods such as the Public Sphere Pedagogy are encouraged.

***Application Deadline: January 22, 2016***

*Project Delivery/Implementation: Spring/Summer 2016*

## **Student Organization Grants**

**4 grants available at \$2500**

Student Organization Grants are intended to support Cleveland State University sanctioned student organizations that have shown exemplary commitment in providing volunteer service or ongoing collaboration with a community or a community based organization. Selected student organizations will work with the Office of Civic Engagement during Spring or Fall Semester to enhance their volunteer efforts with a community partner.

***Application Deadline: January 22, 2016***

*Project Delivery/Implementation: Spring/Summer 2016*

## **Central Neighborhood Alliance Grants**

**2 grants available at \$5000**

Central Neighborhood Alliance Grants are intended to leverage collective resources and support collaborative efforts within the Central Neighborhood. The selected projects must

align with collaborative efforts already taking place in Central to improve educational and economic conditions within the community. To be eligible for this grant, the faculty member must identify a community based partner that is located within Central. \$1000 of the total award must be shared with the identified community partner. These grants may be used to support projects occurring this spring or summer of 2016.

***Application Deadline: January 22, 2016***

*Project Delivery/Implementation: Spring/Summer 2016*

## **Civic Oriented Research Grant**

**2 grants available at \$5000**

Community-based participatory research (CBPR) is an applied collaborative approach that enables community residents to more actively participate in the full spectrum of research (from conception – design – conduct – analysis – interpretation – conclusions – communication of results) with a goal of influencing change in community health, systems, programs or policies. Community members and researchers partner to combine knowledge and action for social impact to improve community well-being. Academic/research and community partners join to develop models and approaches to building communication, trust and capacity, with the final goal of increasing community participation in the research process. It is an orientation to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. (*Community-Campus Partnership for Health*)

To qualify for this grant, faculty must identify a community based organization to collaborate on a mutually conceived research topic. The faculty member along with impacted community members must work together to determine the design and conclusions of the research. Furthermore, the faculty member and community must jointly determine how the results of the research will be broadly shared with the community.

***Application Deadline: January 22, 2016***

*Project Delivery/Implementation: Spring/Summer/Fall 2016*