

Frequently Asked Questions

2026 WVU Internal Community Engagement Grants

How are applications evaluated? The WVU faculty senate service committee is the committee responsible for evaluating community engagement grant application. Each grant has a primary and a secondary reviewer who score the grant on a scale of Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, and Poor. Reviewers then meet to discuss each proposal collectively. The primary reviewer presents the grant and factors contributing to their rating. The secondary reviewer offers additional insight/feedback. Committee members then discuss/review and assign an overall rating for the grant. The committee awards funding to grants that have two “excellent” ratings with full committee agreement and then move next to grants that have one “excellent” and one “very good.” The committee may also consider funding grants that have two “very goods.” The committee in general will not fund grants that rate below this level.

How do I do the budget, does it matter what the budget is (or are some things prioritized over others): In general the committee prioritizes direct cost items and has limited PI/co-PI salary support to \$3500 (1/3rd of the maximum amount of \$10K)

What should go under each section in the proposal body: There are detailed instructions for each section of the proposal on the internal grants website. In general, the grant should be written in such a way that it can be easily understood by faculty colleagues in any field. Avoid the use of jargon; due to character limits. Full references are not necessary in the background section. The best grants provide a compelling case for why your project is needed and why are you the one to do it. The strongest proposal will identify plans for continuity of the program after the CE funding ends.

Can I apply for more than one community engagement grant?: Each faculty member may submit one proposal in which they serve as the PI during each cycle. However, faculty may serve as the PI on a single proposal, and as a collaborator on additional proposals.

Are there common things you see in a very strong proposal as a reviewer?

- Connection to a wide base (statewide or regional) rather than a very specific smaller population
- Detailed and well thought out budget
- New and innovative ideas
- Service-based connection to how the proposal provides impacts others
- Connected to the faculty member’s larger career
- Include project summary that clearly and succinctly conveys the project and its aims
- Describes what will do done clearly and without unnecessary jargon

Are their fatal errors that you see as a reviewer?

- Budgets that are vague, grandiose, or inefficient
- Already existing funded projects seeking additional funding to continue/supplement

- Very specific or limited target audience

How do I find the CE in KC? Although the University is transitioning from KC to WRAP, the KC system will be utilized for this grant period. Use your WVU Login username and password to login to WVU+kc at kc.wvu.edu and then click the **Create Internal Grant** link from the Internal Grants menu bar. Complete the application form and submit.

When are applications due: May 1st, 2026 by 11:59 pm