Workforce Innovator
Grant Application
2020

Our mission: GRAUC will meet the workforce needs of our region.
To achieve our mission GRAUC:

• ADVOCATES for quality post-secondary educational programs and outcomes.
• PROMOTES post-secondary educational opportunities for students to best serve business, education and the region.
• CONNECTS post-secondary education with business and industry to further their mutual success.

851 30th Avenue SE
Rochester, MN  55904
Julie Nigon’s cell: 507-269-9198
Email: executivedirector@grauc.org
Website: www.grauc.org
Greater Rochester Advocates of Universities and Colleges (GRAUC)

GRAUC is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that receives funding from the city, private foundations, corporations, organizations and individuals. GRAUC, through private donations, has established a “Workforce Innovator” endowed agency account at the Rochester Area Foundation for the purpose of funding:

1) Projects that enhance and support the growth and improvement of post-secondary education opportunities in the greater Rochester area
2) Projects that promote partnerships between post-secondary education and other agencies or business and industry

Eligibility

Grant applications from $500-$3000 will be considered from individuals, educators and business and industry representatives whose projects are designed to benefit students, educators and businesses in the greater Rochester area. Special attention will be given to grants that support projects that enhance programming and services for students enrolling in Rochester-area post-secondary educational institutions. Fifty percent of the award funding will be distributed in June 2020 with the remaining 50 percent awarded at the Awards Breakfast in June 2021.

Screening Criteria

An Endowment Committee of GRAUC Partnership Members will screen grant applications using the following criteria: innovation (a new initiative/program that meets a workforce need or a program/initiative revised and updated to promote participation and to facilitate completion by under-represented populations), feasibility (requested funding, plus any other secured funding, is adequate to initiate the project within two years), collaboration (a strong connection between education providers with participation of area employers is a required element), community impact (an initiative that expands and/or upskills the workforce or promotes post-secondary credential attainment by under-represented populations), alignment (with the GRAUC mission to meet the workforce needs of our region).

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Timelines

Grant applications are due in the GRAUC office at 851 30th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN 55904 by 3 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2020. The GRAUC Endowment Committee will review applications in May, notify applicants on May 15, and recognize grant recipient(s) at the annual GRAUC Awards Celebration Breakfast on June 12. Award recipients would return the following year and share a project summary and results at GRAUC’s Annual Awards Celebration Breakfast.

Restrictions

GRAUC only funds projects that enhance and support the growth and improvement of post-secondary education or that promote partnerships between educational institutions and other organizations. Funding will not support general operations, annual or capital campaigns, endowments, proposals that duplicate existing projects (see Screening Criteria), political or religious activities, or debt abatement.

Questions

Inquiries should be directed to Julie Nigon, Executive Director
executivedirector@grauc.org  507-269-9198 (cell)
What problem, challenge, or opportunity does this project seek to address?
What other individuals or organizations will you collaborate with and what will be their contribution to the project?

What measurable outcomes or goals have you established for the project:

If funded, please describe your plans to publicize the award:

Signature _________________________________     Title __________________________

Applicants will receive notification of the Endowment Committee’s decision by May 15, 2020.