International Center Grant Fund: Supporting International Student Voices, Interests and Needs

Background

There are over 7,000 International students at the University of Michigan representing over 120 countries around the world. The International Center offers a grant opportunity to help student organizations and University departments recognize the diversity of the international student population through special events and programming.

We are looking to fund creative programming that will address the following goals:
1. To elevate the voices of the international student population at the University of Michigan.
2. To provide programming to support international students.
3. To hold events or offer initiatives of particular interest to the international student population, at large or subsets of it (cultural, vocational, etc).

Two grant categories will be offered:

- Recognized Student Organizations (RSO)
- Departments (Faculty/Staff)

Grants amounts will vary based on the submitted budget and the availability of funds. Due to COVID-19, in-person events are strongly discouraged at this time. Organizations and departments are encouraged to think creatively about utilizing funding in a virtual environment.

*Please see the Application and Eligibility sections below to learn about changes to the IC Grant in light of COVID-19. Please note that since the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, the information below is subject to change at any time.*

**Application Process**

Proposals for the International Center Grant will include the following information that will be submitted via a Google Form:

- Title, date, time, location (in-person or virtual), and description of your proposed event.
  - In-person events are strongly discouraged, but may be considered in some circumstances. In such cases, we ask that you describe how your event will be in compliance with State of Michigan and University of Michigan COVID-19 guidelines and policies, as well as what your contingency plans are, should in-person no longer be feasible at the time of your event.
- Description of the learning objectives of your event and how they match the goals of this grant program.
- The number of students you expect to participate and how you plan to advertise it.
- If seeking funding to support pre-existing events or programming, describe how the funding would enhance the event this year.
- A complete budget sheet ([click here for template](1)) that clearly outlines the expenses involved in putting on the event, and how much money you’re requesting.

During the review process, committee members may reach out to request additional information about your proposed event or initiative.

**Eligibility**

**Recognized Student Organization Grant**

Grants are available to student organizations at the University of Michigan to host events or initiatives that celebrate and/or provide support to the international student population. Grants can be used to support events, initiatives, or to enhance pre-existing programming.

*Eligibility:*
Grants are available to Recognized Student Organizations (RSO) with active University Fund Accounts through the Student Organization Account Services (SOAS) who are in good standing and in compliance with the Standards of Conduct for Recognized Student Organizations. This includes both sponsored and voluntary student organizations.

- Proposed program/event must take place during the current academic year.
- Proposed program/event must adhere to the University of Michigan, State of Michigan, and CDC COVID-19 guidelines, policies, and executive orders.
- Student organizations must follow Fall 2020 event planning protocol as outlined by the Center for Campus Involvement in the CCI Fall 2020 Planning Guide.
- Student organizations proposing in-person events must submit a completed Center for Campus Involvement COVID-19 Event Planning Template at the time of application.

Payment Method:

- Transfer to SOAS account

Student Organizations Apply Here

Department Grant

Grants are available to University of Michigan departments to help cover costs associated with hosting events/programs designed to support international student voices, interests and needs. Grants can be used to support events, initiatives, or to enhance pre-existing programming, and can either be faculty/staff- or student-led.

Eligibility:

- University of Michigan departments are eligible to apply for this funding.
- Proposed program/event must take place during the current academic year.
- Proposed program/event must adhere to the University of Michigan, State of Michigan, and CDC COVID-19 guidelines, policies, and executive orders.

Payment Method:

- Transfer to department shortcode

University Departments Apply Here

Grant Amount Guidelines

- Per Semester: $2,500 Max, per Student Organization or Department
- Per Academic Year: $5,000 Max, per Student Organization or Department

Examples of what this grant can fund:

Due to the current pandemic, in-person events are strongly discouraged; organizations and departments are encouraged to think creatively about utilizing funding in a virtual environment.
• Event supplies
• Honoraria for guest speakers
• Marketing
• The cost of room reservations and A/V (this will be considered in limited cases when in-person events are critical)

Funding will not be given to support:

• Events that do not comply with the State of Michigan, University of Michigan, and CDC COVID-19 safety regulations
• Events with a political agenda
• Events at which alcohol or other drugs are present
• Events taking place outside of the state of Michigan (virtual events hosted by a student outside of the state of Michigan, but within the United States, will be considered)

Selection Process

A selection committee will review proposals and award funding.

Grant Expectations

• Grant recipients must complete a Post-Event Reflection Survey, which asks recipients to report on attendance, upload two photos/screenshots from the event, and share reflections on how the event went.
• Recipients must agree to forfeit funding should the event not take place.

Dates

The application will open on Monday, October 5, 2020. During the 2020-2021 grant cycle, the IC Grant will be distributed on a rolling basis until funds are depleted. Organizations and departments should apply at least 14 days in advance of their event (The earlier, the better).

Application decisions will be made within 14 days after submission of your application. Note that once a decision is made, the process of transferring funds is not immediate and can sometimes take several days. For this reason, we encourage departments and student organizations to submit applications well in advance of any proposed events.

Contact

The International Center is happy to answer questions with regard to eligibility and how to prepare a strong application. Please contact icgrantfund@umich.edu [10] to reach an International Center staff member. Student organizations are also encouraged to consult with the Center for Campus Involvement [11] about event planning recommendations during the pandemic.

2019-2020 Grants Celebration

International Center, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives (OAMI), Center for Educational Outreach (CEO), and Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs (MESA) wish to recognize and congratulate all student organizations and individuals that received grants through those offices. Watch this celebratory video [12]
highlighting just a fraction of the many amazing initiatives that took place on campus and around the world!

Source URL: https://internationalcenter.umich.edu/resources/grant-fund

Links
[1] https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z9I1kOVohVp_7ucKfvjSr7vhXqMNEs937YQoMu0Ksxk/edit?usp=sharing
[2] https://campusinvolvement.umich.edu/content/definitions
[3] https://campusblueprint.umich.edu/
[7] https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eNNL_TnYlwXBO2uwBDtgh0vRpoFHuHbQ/view
[8] https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXXxL_vBb2g8zTodqCDQrhLlLLbkS40jbc3xsawaKkDf6gk-mg/viewform
[9] https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdwwjWtTSYQGZpisZ9nvE3Vxj7wX3ltCjy-Ejxl3OzQ2X94xpA/viewform
[10] mailto:icgrantfund@umich.edu
[12] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFn1bZTib3I