Student Initiative Grant Program Overview

The Kernodle Center for Service Learning offers students the opportunity to apply for and become Student Initiative Grant Award Winners. Award Winners receive up to $1,000 for their project. Student Initiative Grant Award Winners see a need in the community and then create and implement projects to meet the community’s needs. There can be up to five Award Winners per year. The project lasts one calendar year (May through April).

Award Winners are individuals, but they may represent a group. Projects must be conducted in the local community with local partners.

Those selected to be Award Winners will meet monthly with other Winners, have separate monthly meetings with their faculty or staff mentor, and work closely with a community partner.

Funds are to be used for implementation of the project (materials, supplies, transportation, etc.). Funds are not to be used for personal time or expenses.

Award Winners are expected to keep track of and maintain receipts for reimbursement. Funds can be advanced when necessary, but prior approval will be needed.

At the end of the year, Award Winners write a final report and prepare a presentation to be given at a culminating dinner event.

Student Initiative Grant Awards are open to any returning student who will be a full time student while being an Award Winner. If you are applying for a Student Initiative Grant Award you will need to:

- Read through the materials on the Student Initiative Grant to familiarize yourself with the program and how it fits into your interests, abilities, and schedule. This information is available online at www.elon.edu/e-web/students/service_learning/SIGgrantpacket.pdf or in Moseley 230.
- Complete the application materials and return to the Kernodle Center for Service Learning

Project Consultation

The Kernodle Center for Service Learning will hold information meetings on 4/2 at 6pm and 4/3 at 7pm to help you prepare your application proposal and answer any questions you may have. Please contact us at elonvols@elon.edu or (336) 278-7250 if you need help finding an appropriate community partner.

Community Partner  (must have 501 c 3 designation)

- Work closely with the Award Winner and will meet at least once a week with the Award Winner to provide support, feedback, and guidance on project implementation.
- Attend an orientation for Community Partners working with Award Winners in May
- Provide the Award Winner with a connection to the community
- Advise the fellow in your area of expertise
- Attend the end of year celebration/recognition dinner
- Complete a final evaluation
Faculty or Staff Mentor

- Meet monthly with the Award Winner to provide support, feedback, and guidance on project implementation.
- Help the student determine if they can get class credit for being an Award Winner
- Help the student determine if they should count being an Award Winner as experience that would fulfill the Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR.)
- Attend an orientation for Faculty/Staff Mentors working with Award Winners in April
- Attend the end of year celebration/recognition dinner
- Complete a final evaluation
- Review and critique the Award Winners final report

**The Kernodle Center for Service Learning would like to thank the APPLES Program at UNC Chapel Hill for their consultation in the creation of the Student Initiative Grant Awards at Elon University.**

Funding has been provided by the Class of 2008, Morgan Creek Capital Management, the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Carter Academic Service Entrepreneur Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the program’s purpose?

   To allow students to play a role in collaborating with both the University and community partners to meet the various needs of the community.

2. Do you accept applications on a rolling basis?

   No, students must apply in the spring of each semester for awards that run from May to April.

3. What do I need to do to apply?

   - Thoroughly read this website for a greater understanding of the Student Initiative Grant Award.
   - Complete the application packet. By reading through the application packet you will know exactly what you must turn in to be considered for an award.

4. How many people per year can be awarded a grant?

   There will be up to five Award Winners a year. Projects for Award Winners begin in May and will last for a year.

5. Who do I contact with any questions?
Please contact The Kernodle Center for Service Learning. We can be reached at (336) 278-7250 or elonvols@elon.edu

6. What are the eligibility requirements?

Any returning, full time student, who has not previously been awarded a Student Initiative Grant may apply.

7. What are the selection criteria?

- Motivation
- Understanding of and meeting community need
- Feasibility
- Realistic timeline and budget
- Sustainability

8. Can I get class credit?

This will vary student to student, project to project. Your faculty or staff mentor will be able to help you determine if you are able to register for a class to get academic credit for your project.

9. What is required of me if I am accepted as an Award Winner?

It is expected that you will attend monthly meetings with other current Award Winners, meet monthly with your faculty or staff mentor, meet often with your community partner, keep receipts for all program related purchases, and complete a report at the end of your project.

At the end of your project year, you will present your project to faculty, staff, students, and community partners at a celebratory dinner.

The final report will include:
- Summary of your project
- Summary of your budget
- Photographs (no more than 10)
- Plans for sustainability
- Impact and Results
- Names of contacts along with contact information

10. Can this fulfill the Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)? Will this be recorded on my Elon Experiences Transcript?

It is possible to fulfill the ELR with this project. Please consult with the Kernodle Center for Service Learning once you have received the award. Your volunteer hours can be recorded on the Elon Experiences Transcript.

11. How long do I have to complete the project?
A calendar year (Planning will begin in May and be implemented and completed by April of the following year.)

12. Can I apply for a second grant?

No

13. Can I get help before submitting my project proposal?

Yes, please contact The Kernodle Center for Service Learning at elonvols@elon.edu or (336) 278-7250. We would be happy to answer any questions, review your proposal, and give you guidance/feedback before submitting your application.

14. What if I don’t get accepted? Can I reapply?

You can apply again.

15. What do monthly meetings consist of?

Monthly meetings will consist of:
- Reflection Activities
- Updates on progress
- Discuss challenges/strengths in the various projects
- Turn things in (i.e. Receipts)

2008 Application/Selection Process

1. Attend one of the information sessions held April 2 at 6:00 pm and April 3 at 7:00 pm in the Kernodle Center for Service Learning, Rm. 230 Moseley.
2. Determine a need in the community with a community partner
3. Develop an idea of how to meet that community need through service
4. Pick up an application in 230 Moseley or online at: www.elon.edu/e-web/students/service_learning/SIGgrantpacket.pdf
5. Complete Application
6. Turn application in to 230 Moseley (Kernodle Center for Service Learning); mail to CB 2999 Turn application in by April 21. The Kernodle Center for Service Learning will review all applications and conduct interviews the week of April 28. You will be contacted to set up an interview time with a team from the Kernodle Center for Service Learning.
7. Someone from the Kernodle Center for Service Learning will notify you of whether or not you have been accepted by May 5th. An orientation for award recipients will be held on May 8th at 7:00 pm.
Student Initiative Grant
Application Coversheet

Name ___________________________________________________
Datatel # _________________________________________________
Grade level at time of application: (please circle)  Freshman   Sophomore   Junior
Email ____________________________________________________
Phone Number ____________________________________________
Mailing Address __________________________________________
Project Title ______________________________________________
Project Mission Statement
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
Amount Requested __________________________________________

The following are enclosed in this packet

☐ Project Description/Proposal
   -Should show your interest in the project, the community need, execution plan, how your project is sustainable, etc.
☐ Estimated Project Implementation Timeline
☐ Budget/Funding Request Form
☐ Resume
☐ Community Partner Agreement
☐ Faculty or Staff Mentor Agreement

*Please turn this application in at 230 Moseley (Kernodle Center for Service Learning) by April 21, 2008 by 5:00 pm.

*If you would like to any help with the application process please contact the office at 336-278-7250 or elonvols@elon.edu
Student Initiative Grant Award
Faculty or Staff Mentor Agreement Form

If you have more than one community partner, please have each partner fill out a separate form.

Name of Applicant_________________________________________
Applicant’s Datatel #_______________________________________
Applicant’s Project Title _____________________________________

Faculty or Staff Mentor Information
Name_________________________________________________
Department__________________________________________
Position _______________________________________________
Address________________________________________________
Phone Number _________________________________________
Email_________________________________________________
Fax___________________________

Role of the Faculty or Staff Mentor

• Meet monthly with the Award Winner to provide support, feedback, and guidance on project implementation.
• Help the student determine if they can get class credit for being an Award Winner
• Help the student determine if they should count being an Award Winner as experience that would fulfill the Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR.)
• Attend an orientation for Faculty and Staff Mentors working with Award Winners in May
• Attend the end of year celebration/recognition dinner
• Complete a final evaluation
• Review and critique the Award Winners final report

Statement of Intent

I acknowledge that I have read a copy of the applicant’s project proposal. If the student becomes an Award Winner, I agree to work with them to complete their project (May 2008-April 2009.) I will complete the tasks listed above under “Role of the Faculty or Staff Mentor.”

______________________________  _______________________
Signature of Community Partner  Date

For more information please contact The Kernodle Center for Service Learning at elonvols@elon.edu or (336) 278-7250
Student Initiative Grant Award
Community Partner Agreement Form

If you have more than one community partner, please have each partner fill out a separate form.

Name of Applicant_________________________________________
Applicant’s Datatel #_______________________________________
Applicant’s Project Title _____________________________________

Community Partner Information
Name_______________________________________________
Agency________________________________________________
Position _______________________________________________
Address________________________________________________
Phone Number _________________________________________
Email_________________________________________________
Fax___________________________________________________

Role of the Community Partner

• Work closely with the Award Winner will meet at least once a week with the award winner to provide support, feedback, and guidance on project implementation.
• Attend an orientation for Community Partners working with fellows in May
• Provide the Award Winner with a connection to the community
• Advise the Award Winner in your area of expertise
• Attend the end of year celebration/recognition dinner
• Complete a final evaluation

Statement of Intent

I acknowledge that I have read a copy of the applicant’s project proposal. If the student becomes an Award Winner, I agree to work with them to complete their project (May 2008-April 2009.) I will complete the tasks listed above under “Role of the Community Partner.”

_________________________________________
Signature of Community Partner

Date

For more information please contact The Kernodle Center for Service Learning at elonvols@elon.edu or (336) 278-7250
Kernodle Center for Service Learning
Student Initiative Grant
Funding Request Form

Project Title

Name of Applicant

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