



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Building Interfaith America Grants

Leveraging Interfaith Skills to Increase Civic Cooperation

Opportunity

At Interfaith America, we believe that the religious diversity of the U.S. is a strength. When we proactively engage that diversity, we can address the major challenges of our communities and nation. Yet, engaging across deep differences requires interfaith leadership skills and resources. As this nation strives to unlock the potential of America's diverse democracy, we need everyone to contribute.

Interfaith America offers "Building Interfaith America" grants to campuses that identify a need in their campus and seek to mobilize religiously diverse communities to address it. Examples of initiatives include interfaith programs to address food insecurity on campus, ongoing dialogue to address tension around sociopolitical issues, civic engagement and get-out-the-vote work, service learning between diverse faith and philosophical communities, religious literacy campaigns or a special program to welcome first-generation students with a connection to the holidays that are meaningful to them.

Racial Equity Commitment

As a part of our commitment to racial equity, Interfaith America, and the staff who steward our grants look to integrate thought partners with diverse racial backgrounds throughout the process of the grant- from creation to outreach, applications, implementation, and feedback. We are intentional about reaching out to new communities and partners, thinking critically about racial diversity in the applicant and acceptance pools, and setting aside a number of grants for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.



Program Overview

Grants are being offered to campus educators (staff and administrators) to implement programs and/or initiatives that leverage religious, spiritual, and non-religious communities to address an evidenced need or opportunity in the classroom, campus, and wider community

Below are specific examples, requirements, and deliverables for the 2023-2024 Academic Year grants.

Co-curricular Project: Co-curricular grants are \$4,000 with up to \$2,000 eligible as a stipend to a staff member, student, or community partner. These grant recipients will use the funding to address an identified need or opportunity in the campus or broader community through an interfaith lens.

- Examples include but are not limited to:
 - Working with community partners to address a need in the community, e.g., loneliness and mental health crisis; learning loss from the pandemic; addressing barriers to health equity; increasing access to expressed needs.
 - Training campus faculty, staff, and/or students on interfaith leadership skills to address an evidenced need, e.g., increase student religious diversity and retention; foster collaborations on a campus that becomes highly polarized at cultural flashpoints; opportunity to modify orientation, housing or food policies and offerings.
 - Implementing a program on the intersections of race and religion, e.g., religious and racial literacy campaigns; campus dialogue efforts; Get Out the Vote efforts; service and civic engagement opportunities with religious literacy training; leadership retreat focused on religious and racial diversity and belonging.
- Eligibility: This funding is reserved for 2 and 4-year college and university staff, and administrators employed by the college or university. Students or community partners who may want to receive funding must partner with a campus staff member.
 - We will do our best to provide these grants to many campus types, staff and faculty positions, different partnerships, etc.



- Strong applications will include data on the expressed need for the program, information on partnerships with campus and local community organizations, and prioritize racial equity.
- Deliverable: Grantees must submit a mid-grant report and a final report on activities, budget spending, and learnings.
- Support: The Interfaith America Team promises to provide the following forms of support: One on One Check-Ins, Group Cohort Calls, and Developmental Opportunities.

Funding Information

The grant is up to \$4,000 and will be paid in two Installments (s). The grants may be paid out to up to two people, institutions, or organizations. The grantee is responsible for understanding and navigating their institutional or organizational grant processes. Additionally, those who receive funding may receive a 1099 tax form at the end of the year.

Program Timeline

- March 20, 2023: The application period is open.
- May 15, 2023: The application period is closed.
- June 1, 2023: Grantees will be notified of their selection.
- December 1, 2023: Grantees will provide a mid-term report on their projects.
- June 15, 2024: Deadline for final reports which will include an assessment of program impact as well as a commitment to the next steps in the field of interfaith cooperation and budget update.

For further information, please contact Rachel Kline, rkline@interfaithamerica.org