

Call for Proposals – March 5, 2021

Youngstown State University invites the campus community to submit proposals for grant funding from the Coronavirus Relief & Response Supplemental Appropriations Act. Please see below for additional background and instructions.

1. **Grant:** Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) of the U.S. Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSSA) of 2020
2. **Funding Available:** Subject to change; funding limited to federal appropriation levels. Presently, up to \$1 million is available, with individual awards expected to range between \$25,000 and \$150,000.
3. **Background:** The ongoing disruption caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic continues to create enormous challenges for colleges and universities throughout the country. Effectively responding to the coronavirus threat and keeping students, faculty and staff safe while preserving the learning environment imposes additional costs to both institutions and students. In response to this ongoing crisis, the U.S. Department of Education has made available new grant funding to assist colleges and universities in preparing for, preventing and responding to coronavirus. (Source: U.S. Department of Education, <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/asstsecretaryheerfiia1letter.pdf>)
4. **Criteria:** Under section 314(c) of the CRRSAA, this grant may be used to defray institutional expenses associated with coronavirus, including:
 - a. Technology costs associated with a transition to distance education;
 - b. Training for faculty and staff; and
 - c. Student support activities that address needs related to coronavirus.
5. **Requirements:** Proposals must be tied directly to COVID-19 and should be consistent with the criteria above. Preference will be given to proposals that are consistent with the University's [Plan for Strategic Actions](#).

Funds must be used in accordance with guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Education:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/heerfiinstitutional.html>

Proposals must include plans to fully utilize funding no later than January 16, 2022, when the grant period expires.

Proposed use of funds must be in accordance the University's policies related to grants, purchasing, competitive vendor selection, and other policies as may be applicable.

Proposals should be submitted by email to grantsacct@ysu.edu using the online template: <https://ysu.edu/finance-business-operations/proposals-federal-covid-relief-funding>

6. **Timeline:** Review of proposals will begin in April 2021; allocation of funding will depend on the nature and schedule of each proposal but could begin as early as May 2021. The grant period ends on January 16, 2022.

Proposals will first be reviewed by the YSU Grants Accounting office to ensure compliance with allowable uses of funds pursuant to U.S. Department of Education guidelines. From there, eligible proposals will be reviewed by the Strategic Plan Guidance Team, the next version of the [Strategic Planning Organization Team](#), which will make recommendations to President Tressel for consideration.

