WEST VIRGINIA
Higher Education
Policy Commission

WEST VIRGINIA
Community & Technical
COLLEGE SYSTEM

Diversity for Equity Grant

Request for Proposals

Submission Deadline:
June 30, 2022

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education
1018 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301
Phone: (304) 558-0655

I. Section A: Purpose

Under this competitive grant process, funds will be awarded to colleges and universities that meet the eligibility requirements.

Proposals must focus on issues related to "diversity for equity." Diversity is conceptualized broadly and focuses on the notion of diversity for equity in educational outcomes. It encompasses the people, cultures, and climates of all institutions. We recognize the breadth of diversity in West Virginia and acknowledge that educational attainment varies across different forms of diversity. In order to celebrate and honor diversity, West Virginia must focus on delineating and closing the achievement gap. Our aim is to make higher education accessible to citizens representing broad demographics of age, location, and educational background. We must work to ensure that students not only have the opportunity to attend institutions of higher education but also are prepared to succeed.

Guiding principles for the Diversity of Equity Grant include expectation of inclusion; students must be prepared to live and work in a diverse world; education is essential; investment is necessary; and collaboration is paramount. Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 funds will be awarded to sponsor initiatives in the following categories:

1. Extraordinary campus-based initiatives or events designed to achieve diversity for equity;

2. Events or initiatives committed to bringing about mutual understanding and respect among all individuals and groups at respective campuses within West Virginia;

3. Events or initiatives that promote equity in educational outcomes for diverse students; and

4. Programmatic activities that include an emphasis related to *two or more* diversity for equity issues—race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity and veteran status.

II. Section B: Application Process

Dates and Transmittal
To be considered for the Diversity for Equity Initiative Grant, your application/proposals are to be submitted via email in a Microsoft Word of PDF document at or before 5:00 p.m., June 30, 2022, to the following:

Autumn Perry
Program Director of Student Services
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
West Virginia Council for Community & Technical College Education
autumn.perry@wvhepc.edu

The initial review will begin after June 30, 2022.

Eligibility Requirements
West Virginia public two-year and four-year colleges and universities are eligible to apply.

Institutional Grant Protocol
It is important that the applicant coordinate with the institution's advancement office before submitting a grant application.

Estimated Range of Awards

The amount of an award under the RFP will depend upon the quality of the application and the amount of funds allocated to support this category. Institutions are encouraged to seek external funding sources and engage in cooperative arrangements with public and private entities to enhance funding. The maximum single award during FY 2023 will not exceed $5,000. A total of approximately $75,000 in grants will be awarded, **pending Commission and Council approval of the FY 2023 budget.**

Reporting Requirements

Each funded institution will submit to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission or West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education the required Diversity for Equity Initiative Grant end of year program report. This report is designed to capture sponsored programming information, event objectives, evaluation of sponsored events, and end-of-year expenditure information. A specific reporting format will be provided to all grant recipients.

III. Section C: Application Content

Each submitted application must address all required content in order to be considered for funding, and **may not exceed six pages total, including the fillable contact information/signature page**.

Required Content

The required content for each application is as follows:

1. Abstract: A brief abstract of no more than a half page summarizing major components and planned activities.

2. Rationale: A description and explanation of how the proposed initiative, event, activity addresses the Diversity for Equity Grant objectives.

3. Goals: A statement of measurable goals with expected outcomes and timeframes for completion.

4. Activities: A description of each activity that is to be conducted including timeframes for completion, required budgetary expenditures, faculty/staff requirements (new or existing) and number of participants served. Note: Please have a contingency plan in place for adjustments that may need to be made due to COVID-19 pandemic circumstances.

5. Evaluation: A description of the method of evaluation that will be used to collect assessment data relative to the proposed project's goals.

6. Sustainability plan: A description of how you plan to sustain your efforts once funding expires.

7. Budget: A projected budget including brief description of anticipated expenditures by category: equipment, travel, professional development, curriculum development, etc. Note: This grant *does not* allow an indirect cost option or funds to pay salaries, wages, or employee benefits.

8. Completed Contact Information/Signature Page: A completed form (see page 4), including identification of an authorizing official for the proposed project.

IV. Sub-Grant Agreement Document

Successful applicants will be required to complete a "sub-grant agreement document" as part of the transfer of funds process. The sub-grant agreement requires the signature of an authorizing official of the institution or research corporation to be submitted at a later date. Please note, this is not necessarily the person submitting the RFP.

Diversity for Equity Grant
Request for Proposals
FY 2023

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Principal Investigator for Proposed Project: _____

Principal Investigator's Title: _____

Phone: _____   Email: _____

Please mark the appropriate box. If funded, this Diversity for Equity Grant award will be managed by the:

☐ Institution

☐ Research Corporation

I hereby certify that the requested grant funds will be utilized as indicated and agree to supply all requested information and reports to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission or West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education. By typing your name below, you are providing a signature and agreeing to comply with the guidelines outlined in this RFP.

Note: Institutions submitting more than one application must provide a priority ranking of applications.

_____
Typed Name & Title of Authorizing Official

_____
Email Address of Authorizing Official

_____
Date

Please include this page as part of your submission in a PDF format.

Autumn Perry
Program Director of Student Services
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
West Virginia Council for Community & Technical College Education autumn.perry@wvhepc.edu