Environmental Justice & the Common Good Research Grants
Application Guidelines

Deadline for applications: April 3, 2024

Eligibility: Faculty members of all ranks employed during the current academic year at SCU.

Goals: The [Environmental Justice and the Common Good Initiative](#) (EJCGI) is happy to announce our newest research grant opportunities.

To advance Santa Clara University's vision to create a more humane, just, and sustainable world, EJCGI will support projects involving research on environmental justice, especially research involving a community-engaged approach.

I. Focus

Environmental Justice
Successful grant applications must explicitly address one or more of the following aspects of environmental justice, especially for Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and/or low-income communities:

1. Fair **distribution** of environmental and environmental health benefits to, and removal of burdens from, over-polluted and underserved communities.
2. **Participation** in environmental and environmental health decision making by people who are affected by these decisions, especially historically excluded people.
3. **Recognition** of rights to equitable protection against environmental harms through law, policy, regulation, or enforcement, including the rights of future generations and of nature.
4. **Transformation** of relationships, such as repair and reconciliation of past harms, and/or to ensure a just transition to a healthy and equitable future.

Community-Based Research
Proposals that involve community-based research will be prioritized. This approach meaningfully involves community-based organizations, other non-governmental organizations, and/or government agencies in designing, conducting, and disseminating the research to maximize its relevance, reach, and rigor. Some examples of this approach include community-based participatory research, participatory action research, and citizen science.

Collaborations
To further the University's goal of building a substantial and distinctive research focus in this area, applications that involve collaborations among two or more SCU faculty members will be prioritized.

Examples
Examples of past grant recipients can be found at www.scu.edu/ej/grants/

II. Proposal Format

The grant proposal must not exceed three single-spaced pages, not including your C.V.(s), and should include each of the following sections.

1. Project title with applicants' name(s) and job title(s).
2. Abstract: A 50 word summary of the project in plain language, including the purpose, its relationship to environmental justice, and its relationship to community-based research (if applicable). This abstract will be published on the Initiative's website.
3. Description of project
    a. Purpose of the research and how it will benefit the community.
    b. How it relates to environmental justice.
    c. How it incorporates community-based research (if applicable). Include the names and email addresses of your community partners, and describe the role they will play in designing, conducting, and/or disseminating the research.
    d. Other specific plans for how the project will be conducted, including whether and how students will be involved, and how the results will be disseminated (through academic and community venues).
4. Timetable for the research (funds may be spent until June 30, 2025).
5. Relationship to past and future research plans: how your prior research has prepared you to conduct this project, and any plans to continue this work and apply for additional funding after the project. Feel free to link to background materials on the web.
6. A list of other sources of support obtained for this research project (with names of sources and amounts).
7. An itemized budget with brief justification.

In addition, include applicant(s) current C.V.(s).

Proposed research that entails the use of human subjects, laboratory animals, radiological hazards, biohazards, or recombinant DNA must comply with University policies. Please consult the SCU Office of Research Compliance and Integrity webpage for more information. If compliance committee approval is needed for a project, then such approval must be obtained **before** any grant is awarded.

In addition, research must comply with current county health and safety restrictions; collaborative work on campus must comply with current university health and safety guidelines.

III. Budget

Proposals up to $5000 will be considered, but we anticipate the median grant amount will be $3000.

Funds are ordinarily not awarded through this program for faculty salaries, tuition remission, equipment replacement, personal computers, office furniture, or electronic equipment not explicitly required for the proposed project.

Requests for student research assistants should include fringe benefits. Benefits should be calculated at .85% during the academic year and 8.5% during the summer. Wages must be at or above the City of Santa Clara's current minimum wage.

IV. Proposal Deadlines

April 2, 2024 - Applicant(s) submit application with current C.V.(s) to environmentaljustice@scu.edu.

April 16, 2024 - Applicants will be notified about grant decisions.

June 30, 2025 – Grant funds must be expended.

V. Evaluation Criteria

Evaluators will consider:
1. The quality of the proposal and project, especially:
    a. Relevance to environmental justice
    b. Role of community-based research
    c. Potential to involve multiple faculty and students
    d. The applicants' experience and potential to complete the project.
    e. The feasibility and appropriateness of the work plan.
2. Likely impacts and outcomes, including community benefits, plans for dissemination in academic and/or community venues, contributions to student learning and/or building a community of environmental justice researchers at SCU.

If you have questions, please contact environmentaljustice@scu.edu.