

## Application Guidelines

### Grand Challenges Mini Grant (GCMG) Program

“...finding solutions to the grand challenges of our times.” –*Tomorrow: Strategic Plan*

**Deadline for Summer/Fall: Second Monday of May by 4:30PM**

**Deadline for Spring: Second Monday of November by 4:30PM**

This program supports faculty and staff wishing to include Grand Challenge topics in their classroom coursework or student project groups. It grants small start-up funds to purchase materiel associated with new assignments/projects involving the Grand Challenge topic for F18-S20: *Fresh Water for All*.

The Grand Challenge Oversight Committee particularly encourages those proposals that lead (or might in future lead) to collaborations such as:

- Shared assignment-making across disciplines
- Team-teaching
- Civic engagement/volunteerism with local, national or global partners
- Applied learning opportunities within or across disciplines

Awarded amounts fall between \$50 and \$350. Upon approval, the awards will be transferred to the applicant's department or office account.

#### **Submission and Review:**

The application process involves briefly answering a series of questions related to your project via the Google Forms application link (see Application Format below). If the project is a collaborative one, a single lead faculty or staff applicant should apply. This application does not require your chair's, dean's or supervisor's signature.

Your application will be reviewed by members of the Grand Challenges Oversight Committee, whose recommendation will be communicated to the Provost for administrative approval. All notification letters will be sent out to applicants by mid-June. Your chair/dean, or supervisor, will also be notified if your application is successful.

If you have questions, please write the chair of the Grand Challenge Oversight Committee; contact information is at the end of the Guidelines.

#### **Eligibility:**

A goal of this program is to extend its benefits to as many faculty/staff applicants as possible. Faculty and staff who have received any prior internal grant support since 2000 must have submitted all appropriate reports to be eligible. You may apply for any concurrent university grant during the academic year of this application.

#### **Program Requirements:**

Lead faculty/staff applicants who receive this support must submit a (brief) Final Report after delivery of the course or program, using the Google Forms Final Report link, to be found in the Grand Challenge Mini Grant description on the [ORSP Internal Grant page](#).

#### **Deadlines for the Final Report concerning this grant are as follows:**

For funded projects **completed** during summer or fall: Reports due, first Monday in January.

For fund projects **completed** during the spring: Reports due, first Monday in June.

This Final Report, though brief, will ask you to focus on outcomes. You will also be asked give the names of students who produced exceptional artifacts for the project. These students will be offered the opportunity to create digital essay presentations about their work for uploading onto the Grand Challenges: Fresh Water section of Digital OZ. The names of

the students as well as the relevant faculty and staff will be attached to the student digital essays on Digital OZ.

Please include the following line on any promotional materials for events based on your Grand Challenge activities: *This event was supported by a Grand Challenges Project Mini-Grant.*

### **Funds:**

Faculty and staff may apply for awards from \$50 up to \$350 for their Grand Challenges classroom and co-curricular activities with students. Activities involving best practices such as collaboration, interdisciplinary pursuits, volunteer works, applied learning, and civic engagement will be given awards at the higher end of the scale.

Priority will be given to:

- Collaborative projects with three or more stakeholders.
- Faculty and staff who have not received this grant in at least a year and who completed Final Reports.
- Activities set for engagement in the upcoming semester.

Salary or travel of any kind will not be funded via this mechanism. Materiel purchased with the awards should be used by the faculty and staff for purposes of achieving stated impacts/outcomes for the proposed project(s). Awards will be deposited in the applicant's departmental and office account; successful applicants should confer with chairs and supervisors about the procedures for use of those funds.

### **Application Format:**

You will find the Google Forms application link on the Grand Challenges: Fresh Water web site (<https://www.oswego.edu/grand-challenges/>) or in the Grand Challenge Mini-Grant description on the [ORSP Internal Grant page](#). Here you will be asked to provide information about those involved with the project and asked to complete a questionnaire about what the project entails. The application will ask you **briefly** to:

- 1) Indicate whether the project involves collaboration, interdisciplinary, civic engagement, or applied learning.
- 2) Describe your project in terms a layperson can understand.
- 3) Describe what you foresee the project's outcome/impact on the students + relevant partners to be, as well as its impact in terms of finding solutions applicable to the fresh water topic.
- 4) Complete the budget summary/justification.

**For questions regarding this mini-grant and the application process, please contact:**

Leigh Wilson  
Chair of the Grand Challenge Oversight Committee  
[leigh.wilson@oswego.edu](mailto:leigh.wilson@oswego.edu)  
315.312.2625