HBCU Give Back – A National Service Initiative

Grant Opportunity for
Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in North Carolina (Request for Proposal & Engagement)

Introduction to Engagement Grant:

Elizabeth City State University in partnership with Partners for Rural Impact (PRI) a national nonprofit organization is pleased to announce a service grant opportunity for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in North Carolina.

This opportunity aims to build the capacity and civic infrastructure in rural places to move educational outcomes for students attending HBCU’s forward. This opportunity is designed to implement community/regional based service and leadership development programs. The design and delivery model of these community-based leadership program and/or national service programs will specifically support the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) as the population of priority focus for the National Rural Service Initiative.

Grant Details:

- **Eligibility**: MUST be a North Carolina HBCU to apply – Only 1 proposal submission per institution
- **Grant Range**: $25,000-$40,000
- **Submission Deadline**: April 8, 2024 via email by 5:00 pm (universityadvancement@ecsu.edu)
Grant Application Requirements:

1. **Organization History** – Briefly describe the organization’s history, current programs and accomplishments related to service activities. Include a short summary of the organization’s mission, goals, and objectives.

2. **Statement of Need** – What community issues are you addressing or plan to address? In your response, please include information about the following: The location or geographic scope of the work; a description of the need for the proposed work and why is this time right time to invest in the work that will be outlined in the proposal.

3. **Plan of Action/Scope of Work** – Briefly describe your proposed project for your campus; how the project will meet the priority area (national service) and how it will benefit targeted rural communities and people who live there; What do you hope to accomplish? How will this funding move the national service model? How will the funding build the capacity and civic infrastructure in rural places to move educational outcomes?

4. **Timeline** – Please describe your timeline with realistic schedule for milestones and outcomes; Please align project completion with August 1, 2024, deadline.

5. **Budget** – Provide a detailed and well-justified budget allocation; there is no match requirement (*see budget template attached*): Please make sure that requested amount is in alignment with expected goals and objectives.

6. **Sustainability** – What will be the long-term viability and impact of the service initiative and strategies for continued implementation beyond the grant period.

7. **Evaluation** - Please describe your measurable outcomes and key performance indicators; Data-driven approach to monitoring and evaluating project success.

8. **Career/Service Fair** – Please provide inclusion and integration of a service component in your career fair(s) on your campus; describe engagement of students, faculty/staff and community members in the fair.

**Proposal format:** Limited to 3-5 pages double space; 12 pt. font; budget and timeline is not included in the page limit.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

HBCU’s applying for this grant would be required to send 2-3 representatives to the **Partners for Rural Impact Summit: April 28 - May 1 in Lexington, KY.** ECSU will pay for registration and travel expenses separate and apart from the grant for members to attend. For more information on the Summit please log on to: [www.partnersrural.org](http://www.partnersrural.org);

Please email us the list of representatives who will attend by March 25, 2024.

Please include first, last name, title, institution, email, and contract number and if any dietary restrictions. Please email information to Mr. Quentin Williams, [qvwilliams@ecsu.edu](mailto:qvwilliams@ecsu.edu)

Flights, ground transportation and per diem (meals) will be reimbursed to your institution; please keep all receipts as you will be reimbursed for those expenses. Please ensure that you comply with your institutions travel policy. We will pay the registration and hotel directly.
Selection Criteria:

In-person and Virtual Engagement:

- All award recipients will be required to participate in a grant overview and information session prior to the release of funds.
- Agree to participate in 2-3 in-person and/or virtual convenings (held on multiple campuses throughout NC)
- Agree participate in campus-based Focused Groups on National Service on other HBCU campuses.

Community/Regional Impact: (25 points)

- Demonstrated potential to positively impact rural communities in North Carolina.
- Clear identification of target beneficiaries and the extent of the proposed service initiative's reach.
- Measurable outcomes that reflect meaningful and sustainable change within the community.

Innovation: (20 points)

- Originality and creativity in the approach to addressing community needs.
- Novel solutions or strategies that set the project apart from existing initiatives.
- Potential for scalability or replication of innovative practices in similar contexts.

Feasibility: (25 points)

- Realistic and achievable implementation plan with clearly defined steps and milestones.
- Adequate resources, including personnel, funding, and partnerships, to support project execution.
- Risk assessment and mitigation strategies to address potential challenges or obstacles.

Alignment with Grant Objectives: (30 points)

- Direct correlation between the proposed service initiative and the stated objectives of the grant opportunity.
- Consistency in the project's focus on sustainable service initiatives in rural North Carolina.
- Demonstration of how the project contributes to the overall goals and mission of the grant funding.

We recommend that you email an intent to apply on or before March 25, 2024 to universityadvancement@ecsu.edu. Please submit application by deadline of April 8, 2024, 5:00 pm. Email proposal narrative, budget and timeline to universityadvancement@ecsu.edu. Late proposals will not be considered.