

Students Consulting for Nonprofit Organizations*

*please make a copy of this document
to fill out your application

Client Application

Spring 2026

Northwestern University

About Northwestern SCNO

Thank you for your interest in working with Students Consulting for Nonprofit Organizations (SCNO). We look forward to reading your application and learning more about your organization.

SCNO selects an average of five clients per academic quarter and assigns a team of five students and one professional mentor to work with each client on a strategic engagement. We'd like to establish that there will be two mandatory events to attend, our project kick-off and our final presentations that will be in person. However, we do allow clients to attend virtually upon request.

We invite you to learn more about us by visiting our website: <https://nuscno.com>. If you have any remaining questions, please contact Lakshmi and Shail, our Directors of Client Development, at nuscnocd@gmail.com.

Application Process

1. Complete this application by **Sunday, March 15.**
2. Final decisions will be released by **Monday, March 30** at the latest.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Lakshmi and Shail at nuscncd@gmail.com.

Some tips for a successful application:

- Our students are highly intelligent and skilled at working in the hypothesis-based consulting model. Projects should be built around high-level analysis and solving problems your organization's leaders are asking without predetermined answers.
- We avoid projects that provide task-based support and treat students like interns (ex. building out a website or managing day-to-day social media pages).
- We operate on a 10-week program and it is important that projects can be completed within this timeframe. We ask a lot from our students but know that academics come first. Our strongest applicants have a developed idea of the scope of the project that is able to be completed within 10 weeks.
- Communication is prioritized as we search for clients. The best applications will have a clear leader and point-of-contact who plans on being able to engage with our students on a weekly basis and will attend kick-off and final presentations.

General Information

*Disclaimer: Please type out as opposed to hand-writing the application. Thank you!

Organization Name	
Address	
Website	
Primary Contact Name	
Primary Contact Position	
Primary Contact Phone Number	
Primary Contact Email	
Secondary Contact Name	
Secondary Contact Position	
Secondary Contact Phone Number	
Secondary Contact Email	
Registered 501c3 Organization? (Y/N)	
What year was your non-profit founded?	
Total number of staff (full time & part time)	

Total number of volunteers	
Annual Budget	
Have you worked with SCNO before?	
Have you applied to SCNO before?	
How did you hear about SCNO?	
Would you be interested in a multi-quarter project?	
If we do not have capacity to accommodate your project this quarter, would you be available in Fall 2026 (Sept-Dec)?	

Commitment Requirements

If you are chosen to engage with SCNO, you agree to the following terms:

*Please initial in the boxes to the right, indicating you understand the commitment.

Attend in-person Project Kickoff on Friday, April 10 at 5PM	
Maintain weekly contact, by phone or email, with your SCNO team lead	
Compile and divulge relevant documentation for the project before immediately after kick-off and during the project if needed	
Attend in-person Final Presentations on Friday, May 29 at 5PM	
Attend two 30-minute exit interviews to give feedback to your project team (timeline for interviews is within one month and within six months post-project handoff)	

team could provide to you at the end of the project. (Please email Lakshmi and Shail at nuscnocd@gmail.com if you would like us to provide helpful examples.)

Final Steps

Thank you for applying to work with SCNO for the **Spring 2026** client engagement season. As a final step, we ask that you and a member of your organization's Board of Directors sign below. If it's a logistical issue to obtain a signature, you can submit the application and provide a board member's signature at a later time.

Date: _____

Date: _____

X _____

Member, Board of Directors

X _____

Executive Director/Program Director/Staff

We will review your application and be in touch regarding next steps. If you have any questions, please contact our Directors of Client Development at nuscncd@gmail.com.

Thank you!

SCNO Executive Board