

Dear Campus Community,

PSU is excited to announce an opportunity for faculty and researchers to submit federal funding requests for Community-Initiated Projects (CIPs, sometimes known as "earmarks"), and programmatic funding (including language requests) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. This opportunity is a collaboration between Research and Graduate Studies and our colleagues in Government Relations. PSU can only submit a limited number of requests, we are opening a call for preliminary applications to ensure we prioritize the most impactful projects.

To assist you in this process, we have compiled all necessary information below, and we will hold a webinar to answer questions and discuss the process on Thursday October 31st from 12-1pm. Please [register here](#) if you would like to attend.

If you have any questions about Appropriations Requests or Processes, please contact [Kimberly Koops](#), Associate Vice President of Government Relations and/or [Annie Lindgren](#), Associate Vice President of Research.

Our internal **preliminary application deadline is 5 p.m. on November 15th.**

Appropriations Overview

Two types of appropriations requests can be made:

1. **Community-Initiated Projects (CIPs)** are a special type of federal grant where the recipients, amounts, and purposes are specifically listed in the annual appropriations bills. Similar to other federal grants, CIPs are subject to requirements like matching funds and environmental compliance. Funding for CIPs typically ranges from \$500,000 to \$2.5 million and can support one-time expenses such as equipment and technology upgrades and purchases, developing and improving curricula, providing student support, implementing university partnerships, and establishing research and training centers.
2. **Programmatic and report language requests** are requests for Congress to fund an authorized federal program at a specific level or to include language directing a federal agency to implement a program in a specific way. Universities submit these requests asking for specific funding or specific report language to be included in the next year's federal appropriations bill. These requests help ensure that PSU receives targeted funding or favorable language in next year's appropriations bill. Typically, funds can be requested for activities where PSU already has an existing agency relationship, has previously or currently receives federal funding, or is seeking to strengthen a federal relationship. Either way, the request must be submitted in a way where PSU is the ultimate recipient – either because language directs how funds should be used in a manner that differentiates PSU so it can compete better than anyone else and/or has a partner ("catcher") in the agency that will help direct the funds to PSU.

Process for Requesting Federal Appropriations

If you are interested in requesting federal appropriations, [please complete a preliminary application](#) by **5 p.m. on November 15th**. These applications will be reviewed by Research & Graduate Studies, Government Relations, and Academic Affairs to determine which projects will be part of PSU's official federal funding requests. This process allows us to identify promising projects early and work closely with principal investigators (PIs)/lead submitters to prepare competitive proposals.

Process for Evaluating Federal Appropriations Requests

A review committee made up of representatives from Government Relations, Research & Graduate Studies, and Academic Affairs will evaluate the preliminary applications, including both project and team eligibility.

Each project will be assessed based on the composition and experience of the team, quality of the proposed work, its fit with available federal funding opportunities, and alignment with PSU's strategic goals. Priority will be given to projects that address PSU's key priorities, state and local needs, and align with Oregon's congressional delegation's focus areas. Specifically, we will prioritize requests in the following areas:

- Advanced Manufacturing and Semiconductors
- Behavioral Health and Addiction
- Cybersecurity
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Clean Technology and Renewable Energy
- Climate Impacts, Wildfires, and Extreme Weather
- Student Success

Timeline

November 2024:	Preliminary Applications Due
December 2024:	Decision Notifications Sent to Applicants
January - April 2025:	Final Submissions to Congressional Offices

Process Caveat

Please note that requesting federal appropriations is a lengthy process, and funding is not guaranteed. If PSU is successful in requesting a CIP, these funds will likely not be available until Spring 2026 (at the earliest). Government Affairs will work with applicants to develop a request, which will be written as a request for funds in the FY 2026 budget. *If allocated*, that would open up a program that PSU faculty would apply to/request the funds from. Programmatic requests have a different path and Government Relations will advise PIs throughout the process.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply?

Please complete the [preliminary application](#) by **5 p.m. on November 15th**.

What is an agency? What is an account?

An agency in this context is a federal agency, and an account is a unit within the agency. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees determine which agencies they will accept CIPs for. While we won't know which accounts are eligible until further on in the process, we expect it will be similar to past years. You can see a prospective list [here](#).

What can appropriation requests funds be used for?

Appropriations requests are one-time allocated funds that must be spent in a limited time period. Requests can be made for items such as: equipment and technology upgrades and purchases, developing and improving curricula, providing student support, implementing university partnerships, and establishing research and training centers. *Please note: as these are one time allocations, funds cannot be requested to support faculty or staff salaries.*

If I am chosen to submit a full request, what are the chances of my project being funded?

How long will it take?

The Community Initiated Project process is extremely competitive. Not all projects submitted to congressional offices are submitted for consideration by the Appropriations Committees, and not all projects submitted to the committees are included in a federal spending bill. The process can take 18-24 months, and there is no guarantee of funding. However, PSU Government Relations and Research and Graduate Studies are committed to working closely with PIs to ensure a positive experience throughout the process.