




Division of Campus Planning,
Infrastructure, and Facilities
Sterrett Center
230 Sterrett Drive
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

MEMORANDUM

TO: Student Organizations

FROM: Mary-Ann O. Ibeziako 
Assistant Vice President for Infrastructure and Chief Sustainability Officer
Chair of the Energy and Sustainability Committee

DATE: September 20, 2021

SUBJECT: Academic Year 2021-22 Request for Proposal for Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Initiatives by Student Organizations Program (Green RFP Program)

Student engagement is an important factor in advancing climate action, sustainability, and energy initiatives at Virginia Tech. The university has created the Request for Proposal for Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Initiatives from Student Organizations Program (called the “Green RFP Program”) to solicit proposals from recognized student organizations that supports the goals of the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment. Since its initiation in academic year 2010-11, the Green RFP Program has provided funds in excess of \$1.5 million for 110 approved student sustainability proposals.

The purpose of this memorandum is to present the proposal submission process, timeline, format, contacts, and the review criteria. Recognized student organizations should identify sustainability initiatives that are directly targeted to specific projects and therefore limited in size and scope. The university is especially interested in projects focused on energy reduction and conservation that produce achievable savings. Requests for one-time support are generally preferred over those requiring ongoing support.

The process and key dates for proposal submission and are shown in Attachment 1. The process begins with this memorandum and continues through the current academic year. Approved proposals will be formally announced during Spring Semester 2022.

Student organizations will submit a proposal(s) using the form titled “Green RFP Submission Form” shown in Attachment 2. All four parts of the form must be completed in detail. Part III, “Supporting Information” should be completed prior to addressing Part II, “Project Cost Information.” As shown in Part IV, all proposals must have an appropriate university official’s participation and concurrence prior to submission. The participation of the appropriate university official is

essential, particularly if a proposal involves the purchase and installation of new equipment, a modification to an existing facility or grounds, or a new program.

The completed form must be signed and electronically submitted to Nathan King in the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy at naking@vt.edu by 4 p.m. on November 19, 2021. If students have questions, need assistance in completing the form, or need assistance with identifying the appropriate university official for their proposal, please contact Mr. King via email or office telephone at 540-231-7358. If technical assistance is needed in preparing a proposal, please see our subject matter contact list in Attachment 3. For a list of previously approved Green RFPs, please visit the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy website:

<http://facilities.vt.edu/sustainability/sustainability-programs/green-rfp-program.html>.

The Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy will present select proposals to the university's Energy and Sustainability Committee for review and prioritization. This committee is a part of our university governance system and is comprised of faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students. The committee will consider and evaluate proposals based on the following criteria:

- Does the proposal help to achieve the goals of the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment? See: <https://vt.edu/sustainability/background.html>
- Does the proposal generate savings that exceed the cost of implementation?
- Does the proposal pertain to energy reduction/conservation that produces cost savings?
- Does the funding request address a one-time or an ongoing need?
- Does the proposal leverage other sources of funding or volunteer effort?

Select proposals meeting these criteria will be prioritized and submitted by the Energy and Sustainability Committee to the Office of Budget and Financial Planning (OBFP) for further consideration. OBFP will assemble a budget committee to review proposals and determine potential funding strategies for those recommended for approval. The Vice President for Finance will announce the list of approved proposals and funding sources. The Division of Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities will oversee implementation.

Thank you for your interest in the university's environmental stewardship efforts. I encourage your participation in this very popular student program.

c: Wendy M. Halsey	Christopher H. Kiwus
James S. Hillman	Jamie D. Lau
Timothy L. Hodge	Kenneth E. Miller
Travis W. Hundley	Angela S. Page
Frances B. Keene	Frank X. Shushok Jr.
Nathan T. King	Jonathan C. Teglas

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL
PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

DATE	ACTIVITY
Sep 20, 2021	Assistant Vice President for Infrastructure and Chief Sustainability Officer announces the AY 2021-22 Green RFP Program and the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy (CASE) notifies student organizations.
Nov 19, 2021	Proposal submission deadline to CASE.
Dec 1, 2021	CASE coordinates a proposal review for feasibility and completeness.
Jan 31, 2022	Energy and Sustainability Committee receives select proposals and appoints Subcommittee to review and recommend a priority order.
Feb 28, 2022	Subcommittee presents proposed priority recommendations to the Energy and Sustainability Committee for approval.
Mar 4, 2022 (estimated)	Energy and Sustainability Committee presents proposals to the Office of Budget and Financial Planning for review and funding consideration.
Mar 2022 (estimated)	Office of Budget and Financial Planning, in coordination with other university offices, determines potential funding options for proposals and seeks the appropriate approvals.
Apr 2022 (estimated)	Vice President for Finance announces the approved proposals and funding sources.
May 2022 (estimated)	The Office of Budget and Financial Planning transfers funds to the appropriate Green RFP funding codes for proposal implementation.
May 2022 (estimated)	CASE initiates Green RFP implementation.

Attachment # 2

C. What is the cost of your proposal? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your cost estimate.

D. Will your proposal produce cost savings for the university? If so, how much? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your savings estimate.

E. Is this funding request for a one-time need or an ongoing need (please mark one)?

One-Time _____

Ongoing _____

F. Is funding available for this request from another source? If yes, describe the funding (source, amount, etc.).

**GREEN RFP SUBMISSION FORM
(Continued)**

Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers	
Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization)	Date
Reviewed By (Name of Appropriate University Official)	Date
Reviewed By (Name of Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Representative)	Date

GREEN RFP SUBMISSION CONTACT LIST

In the preparation of your Green RFP form, student organizations are encouraged to seek input and guidance from the following list of university employees. These individuals are familiar with the form and the process. They can address the feasibility of your proposal, provide a technical review, and evaluate the cost & potential savings.

<u>Area of Expertise</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Engineering & Operations, Energy Management	Steve Durfee	Campus Energy Manager	sdurfee@vt.edu
Facilities: Housing & Residence Life	Todd Pignataro	Associate Director of Facilities	ptodd@vt.edu
Facilities: Buildings & Grounds (Small Renovations)	Jim McDaniel	Project Coordinator	jmcdani@vt.edu
Exterior Lighting	Matt Hagy	Associate Director of Utilities	mhagy1@vt.edu
Student Engagement & Campus Life	Spencer Stidd	Associate Director for Event Services	sstidd@vt.edu
Dining Services & Housing (Student Affairs)	Blake Bensman	Sustainability Manager	bensman@vt.edu
Alternative Transportation (Bus, Bike, & Walk/EVs)	Nick Quint	Transportation Network Manager	nquint@vt.edu
Landscape Architecture	Jack Rosenberger	Campus Landscape Architect	jrosenb@vt.edu
Hahn Horticulture Garden	Scott Douglas	Director/Instructor	dsd1@vt.edu
Recycling & Waste Management	Teresa Sweeney	Program Consultant	msrecycle247@vt.edu
Other Sustainability Topics	Nathan King	Campus Sustainability Manager	naking@vt.edu