



**Undergraduate
Student Government**

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

**November 1st, 2022
Student Senate Session
S.S.B. #11**

Sponsors: Senator Carrell, Senator Michalski
Referred to: Finance Committee
Student Senate Action: Passed/Failed/Tabled

AN ACT

Establishing a requirement for the Undergraduate Student Government to host funding request workshops.

Section 1. Short Title

This bill may be cited as “Requirement of Funding Request Workshops”.

Section 2. Discussion

Whereas, the creation and promotion of funding request workshops was a key point in the USG’s platform for the 2022-2023 term.

Whereas, funding requests remain underutilized by student organizations due to a lack of awareness or confusion regarding the process.

Whereas, out of the over 600 registered student organizations at the University of Iowa¹, only 88 different student organizations requested funding during the 2021-2022 term.

Whereas, the improvement of funding request education and outreach promotes student organizations to utilize such services, while also providing transparency of both the USG and its process for allocating funds.

Whereas, prior funding request workshops have proven successful in terms of attendance from leaders of student organizations, demonstrating a desire for such programs.

¹ <https://leadandengage.uiowa.edu/student-organizations>

Whereas, the most recent funding request workshop in Fall 2022 had over 25 attendees from numerous student organizations, despite being the first workshop in recent years.

Whereas, funding request workshops provide benefits such as allowing students to ask specific questions, learn how to submit a funding request, and gain a better understanding of the funding guidelines. In addition, such benefits mean future funding requests will be less likely to be rejected or require follow-up.

Whereas, the bylaws of the USG currently include no requirement for any student outreach regarding funding requests.

Whereas, inclusion of this amendment in the USG bylaws better ensures a far-reaching impact and stricter adherence to its outlined goals for future senate terms.

Section 3. Action

Be it enacted, the Undergraduate Student Government will host a minimum of two funding request workshops per academic year, with at least one occurring in both the Fall and Spring semesters, respectively.

Be it further enacted, funding request workshops will have no cost of attendance, be entirely open to the public, and include a period of question and response.

Be it further enacted, though hosted by the Finance Committee, the rest of the USG will heavily promote and advertise funding request workshops so potentially interested students are made fully aware of the opportunity and benefits it can provide.

Be it further enacted, the USG Communications team will develop graphics for student government social media upon request by the Finance Committee to advertise these workshops.

Be it further enacted, Article II, Section G of the USG bylaws, under the clause “Finance Committee” shall be amended to read as follows:

Finance Committee

1. This committee shall develop and maintain maximum funding standards for allocations to all undergraduate student organizations.
2. This committee shall review funding applications every Monday after a funding application deadline. Application reviews shall convene during a Student Senate Session during the fall and spring semester, with exception for University Holidays.
3. This committee shall assist in fulfilling USG’s funding duties in conjunction with the Director of Finance and Deputy Director of Finance.
4. This committee shall be comprised of no more than seven members.
5. This committee shall hear and vote on funding proposals that range from \$1,500 to \$4,999.

6. Funding proposals shall be submitted electronically to the Finance Committee through the Student Organization Management Tool.
7. Meetings shall be arranged by the Finance chair based on the availability of Finance Committee members.
8. Conflict of Interest
 - a. If any member has a potential conflict of interest related to the funding request(s), they shall make the conflict known to the Finance chair. Subsequently, they shall be excluded from deliberations and voting on the request(s).
9. The Finance Committee shall have its own set of bylaws which shall regulate internal processes and procedures for allocations.
10. The Finance Committee bylaws can be found on the USG website.
11. The Finance Committee shall host no less than two (2) publicly accessible funding workshops each year, with no less than one (1) hosted each fall and spring semester.

Section 4. Enactment Clause

Be it enacted by the Undergraduate Student Government upon the signature of the USG President.

Alexis Carfrae

Speaker of the Senate
Alexis Carfrae

I hereby attest and certify that this bill originated from the 2022-2023 Student Senate Session.

APPROVED on 11/15/22, by

Patrick Johnson

USG President
Patrick Johnson