Sustainable Solutions Lab Seed Grant Request for Proposals

The Sustainable Solutions Lab (SSL) is pleased to announce our annual Request for Proposals is now open for our Seed Grant Program. Proposals are due on Thursday, April 15, 2021.

These seed grants, with awards of up to $7,500, support research addressing the disproportionate impacts of climate change on marginalized communities. This year, we are particularly interested in proposals that draw connections between the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and impacts of climate change. This could include a range of topics such as public health, healthcare accessibility, small businesses, financing, or the economy more generally. As in prior years, each grant proposal must clearly articulate how the work is related to climate justice.

Awards are open tenure or non-tenure track faculty members who are affiliated with the colleges, schools, and institutes that make up the Sustainable Solutions Lab. Interdisciplinary teams are encouraged but not required.

In addition to funding, faculty who are chosen for the seed grant will receive support from the Sustainable Solutions Lab on proposal development, media outreach, connections to local stakeholders and climate justice leaders and, potentially, connections to foundations and funders.

The Sustainable Solutions Lab (SSL) is an interdisciplinary partnership among five colleges and schools and four institutes within UMass Boston: the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Management, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, the School for the Environment, the Institute for Asian American Studies, the Institute for New England Native American Studies, The Mauricio Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, and The William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black History and Culture.

### Budget Considerations

Funds are provided by the Sustainable Solutions Lab at UMass Boston and are drawn from the contribution SSL Schools provide to SSL’s budget each year.

* Allowable budget items:
	+ [Graduate Research assistants](https://www.umb.edu/academics/graduate/info_for_graduate_students)
	+ Required supplies and materials, technical and/or administrative support above and beyond standard departmental resources
	+ Travel costs that are necessary to conduct the research.
	+ Funds to conduct research using the [UMass Boston Core Facilities](https://www.umb.edu/orsp/research_core_facilities).
* Unallowable budget items:
	+ Course buyouts, salaries or additional compensations for PI or Co-PIs.
	+ Travel to present results of research.
	+ Personnel costs at other universities or institutions.
	+ Only in unusual circumstances will equipment be allowable

**What to Submit**

In order to expedite the review of proposals, applicants are required to submit proposals in one PDF file, which must include all the components listed below.

1. Cover Sheet
2. Budget
3. Project Narrative (2-4 pages, double spaced) - the core of the proposal describing the project for which funding is being requested. The applicant must be as clear as possible, remembering that the review committee will represent various disciplines and program areas and will not necessarily have strong expertise in the subject matter of the proposal. The project narrative must include the following elements:
	* A clear connection to climate justice and to fulfilling SSL’s mission
	* Specific goals, objectives and problem statement for this research or scholarly activity;
	* Significance of project to your fields and to you as researchers;
	* Research methods and approach;
	* Outcomes of the proposed project (e.g., preparation of a manuscript for publication, production of a piece of music or art, presentation at a professional meeting, submission of a proposal for external funding)
4. CV of each PI

Submit the SSL application PDF file to: ssl@umb.edu