About Club Funding

The Associated Students of the University of Arizona allocates funding to over 600 clubs and organizations. Club funding is only possible because of the fee money received from organizations like SSFAB. Any ASUA-recognized club or organization can apply for the funding to pay for conference fees, travel expenses, event expenses, etc. Clubs use the funding to host events that benefit both the campus and local Tucson community. The funding is also widely used to send students to conferences and events on both a regional and international level. Club funding allocations are determined by an Appropriations Board consisting of 8 undergraduate and graduate student directors. Funding allocations are reviewed on the basis of board policies and precedents.

Student Engagement Mission

The Club Funding Initiative’s goals align with the mission of the Office of the Provost, specifically with career-related learning opportunities. With over 600 recognized organizations, there is a club that represents the interests and needs of every student on campus. Club funding allows these student groups to apply their classroom knowledge in real-world learning experiences. Throughout the last semester, the Club Funding Initiative has provided student groups with the opportunity to attend national and international conferences, host events throughout the Tucson community, establish professional development programs, and outreach.

Reasons for Maintaining Program

One of the most commonly funded types of proposals, perhaps the most funded, are conference fees and travel expenses. Conferences can be an excellent opportunity for students to travel throughout the world, network with other professionals within their career field and acquire some of the most recent professional development from industry leaders. However, conferences can be expensive for the average student. The Club Funding Initiative often subsidizes, or covers in its entirety, conference fees and expenses.

From another perspective, club funding for student travel and conference attendance is beneficial for the entire student body. Most of the conferences that students attend provide excellent networking opportunities as well as professional development workshops. Students learn how to apply their academic coursework to engaging practices outside of the classroom. These student leaders return with some of the most advanced knowledge from within their career fields and, in turn, can educate other students from their colleges with similar on-campus workshops, programs and events.

Student Impact
There are currently over 10,000 registered undergraduate and graduate students throughout 600 recognized clubs. Club funding is available to every member of every recognized club or organization. For the last couple years, the Appropriations Board has allocated 100% of the Club Funding received from the Student Services Fee. Last fiscal year, we funded approximately 200 proposals that impacted thousands of students. Most of these proposals funded conferences and programs that provided students with professional development opportunities that they would have normally been unable to finance.

Additionally, we have a large number of organizations that return each year for funding. These organizations have grown to depend on Club Funding as a primary source of funding for annual conferences, events and competitions. Without the Student Services Fee allocation, many of these student groups would be unable to offer these engagement opportunities of their members.

Measuring Success

The Appropriations Board maintains records of every submitted proposal as well as all approvals, rejections and amended funding. Along with policy and board precedents, the Appropriations directors allocate the majority of the funding to initiatives that impact the highest number of students. To achieve this without spending too much too fast, the directors allocate funding based on YTD sub totals from the previous fiscal year as well as projected remaining funds for the current fiscal year.

Program Longevity

To ensure the longevity of this program, we have been making efforts to diversify representation as well as to increase marketing and outreach efforts. Unlike previous years, we have expanded student representation on the board by hiring a graduate director. Since Club Funding is available to both undergraduate and graduate organizations, there should be both undergraduate and graduate representation on the Board. By hiring a graduate director, the Board ensures non-discriminatory practices by the directors.

ASUA has allocated departmental funds to the pool, establishing a true partnership between your student government and your student services fee moneys. Every year, the Appropriations Board’s bylaws and policies will be scheduled for annual review by the ASUA Senate. This ensures changes are made so that policies align with the amount funded for that fiscal year. The Club Resource Center, the ASUA department that oversees club funding, has also completely redesigned their online presence to make club funding more accessible for students. Overall, we believe that with continued growth, fiscal responsibility and adaptive board policies, the Club Funding Initiative will continue to be a primary avenue for expanding career-related opportunities.