

University of California Graduate Student Association Graduate Student Organization Fund Policy

Approved: DRAFT

Purpose: The University of California Graduate Student Association (GSA) recognizes that graduate student organizations are an important aspect of graduate education, professional development, and community-building. The GSO fund is designed to fund these important campus entities, so they are successful in supporting their mission.

Eligibility: To be eligible, graduate student organizations must be registered through CatLife and meet the requirements of being a UC Merced student organization. Only organizations that complete an application before the deadline will be eligible to receive funding. Information to start an organization is on the GSA website (<http://gsa.ucmerced.edu/funding/GSO-fund>).

Selection: Selection will be based on two (2) criteria: 1) need and 2) contribution to UC Merced and the community of Merced at-large.

Commented [ND1]: Do we need weighting associated with the rubric?

Need will be evaluated based how the funds will be spent and, if applicable, how past funds were spent (see rubric below). Need will also incorporate the necessity of the funds in fulfilling the goals of the organization.

Contribution will consider the direct (weighted more heavily) and indirect (weighted less heavily) impact on the number of students, faculty, staff, and community members of the organizations goals, especially as related to the expenditure of funds (see rubric below).

Need	1	2	3	4
Proposed spending of funds	Food for members of the organization	Dues to register as a member organization	Food for members of the community at an event	Bringing in outside speaker
Past spending of funds (if not applicable, do not incorporate to average)	Did not spend funds on what they promised	Did not spend funds on what they promised, but they have a questionable excuse	Did not spend funds on what they promised, but they have a reasonable excuse	Spent funds on what they promised
Necessity of funds	Funds could be raised through other campus-based avenues	Funds could be raised through outside avenues		GSA funding is only means
Contribution				
Average intensity of impact on people	Indirect effects (e.g., better campus climate)			Direct effects (e.g., direct, interpersonal engagement)
Number of people impacted	>10	10-100	100-1000	>1000

Each member of the delegate assembly will rate each organization using the rubric and will give each organization an average score (1-4). The average score among delegates along with the amount asked will be used to determine the level of funding. If members of an organization are on the delegate assembly, they will be asked not to evaluate their organization.

Use of funds: Funds must be spent prior to June 1st (end of the fiscal year). Unspent funds will be forfeited back to the GSA. Under extenuating circumstances, funds can be extended into the new fiscal year by writing to the GSA Treasurer. Funds may not be used to purchase alcohol.

Commented [ND2]: During the spring I would like to have another call to match our calls with the FYs