

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in applying for funding from the Student Activities Fee for FY21. The Finance and Appropriations Committee is delighted to get to know the unique ways in which your organization, program, or project contributes to the vitality of student life at Georgetown.

The following application, in conjunction with your presentation at the Budget Summit, is designed to give FinApp a complete picture of the past, present, and projected impact of your organization at Georgetown. The application is organized into seven parts, A through G as explained below. Please be aware that the deadline to submit this form is on **Friday, February 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM.** Your assigned liaison will guide you through the application and will be available to answer questions throughout the application process. If you have questions or concerns about the application process that your liaison is not available to respond, please do not hesitate to contact me at [gusafinapp@georgetown.edu](mailto:gusafinapp@georgetown.edu).

As you complete your application, please keep in mind that FinApp will likely receive far more requests than the Student Activities Budget can accommodate. While FinApp is unfortunately unable to fund each organization in full, we work rigorously to ensure that each applicant gets enough funding to fulfill their needs and to carry on with its demonstrated impact on the Georgetown community.

FinApp thanks you for the time and effort spent compiling your financial data and answering our questions. We look forward to working with you throughout this process and hearing from you at the upcoming Budget Summit. If you have further questions about the timeline, you may access the full agenda [here.](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14UsQysKyk6WT7bV4oYGvIJQqba6gN8ZmN4y15sl4CnM/edit?usp=sharing)

Honestly,

Juliana Arias

*Chair, GUSA Finance and Appropriations Committee*

**FY21 Budget Summit**

Student Activity Fee Funding Application A

Please email this application and accompanying materials to gusafinapp@georgetown.edu by **Friday, February 21 2020 by 6:30 PM.** This application is divided among the following components:

**PART A: INTRODUCTION**

Name of Organization: GUSA Executive Elect

Mission of Organization: We are building a GUSA that is by Georgetown and for Georgetown,

on values of feasibility and proactiveness, recognizing intersectionality, and owning our viewpoints. We believe student government can remove barriers to success for every person and every organization — helping Hoyas achieve according to their own definition.

Total Amount of Funding Requested:

**PART B: FINANCIALS**

Please complete [this Financial Information](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ru7sPfsWWEOyFqdaGHVpKAG-cIuaagroFMereYS2xz8/edit?usp=sharing) (A) FY21 excel document and attach it to your email submission. Please note that the Audit previously requested by the Finance and Appropriations Committee is not a substitute of this form. Applications without a complete Finance Information will not be considered for funding.

**PART C: BUDGET GUIDELINES**

Please attach a copy of the budgeting guidelines used by your organization for any and all purposes, and answer the following questions in this document:

1. In short, what is your organization’s budgeting or funding process? (Please provide a brief summary; specifics should be included in the budgeting guidelines you will attach).
   1. Please see the GUSA funding bylaws attached below.
2. If your full funding request is not met, what is the process in place to determine cuts to group budgets or programming?
   1. Our highest priority is the line items under GUSA executive and senate and the basic costs for Federal Relations Committee and SAO. Funding would go to the programs if nothing else. If Financial Appropriations does provide enough funding for these items, we may have to cut Hammocks that are available in student spaced like in front of Arrupe and Reynolds. If we still don’t have enough funding we would have to cut more programming like Arts week or SAO’s training budget.
   2. Our second highest priority is items that would make GUSA more inclusive. We want to fund senate outreach because that is currently a barrier for low-income students.
3. Is there any other information you would like the Committee to consider regarding your organization’s budgeting process and guidelines?
   1. This past year across the board from the executive to the senate, GUSA has felt the unfortunate reality of our miniscule budget. The reality is student government can not hope to be effective in the year ahead without an ample budget. Events aimed at engaging students are not free. Meaningful dialogues with students and administration are not free. Our internal necessities (i.e. website, slack) which facilitate effective communication and transparency are not free. Without the proper funds GUSA can not fulfill its mission. We must stop this crusade against the financial state of GUSA and invest in a reasonable budget.

**PART D: IMPACT**

Please answer the following questions individually in this document:

1. How did your organization affect student life? Can this be measured?
   1. GUSA advocates for all of the Georgetown student body with the University’s administration, the Georgetown neighborhood, and the DC community. It holds both itself and the administration accountable to students. GUSA prioritizes student concerns and initiatives, convening the student body and the broader Georgetown community around them.
   2. A way to measure this is voter turnout - if students do not care or feel GUSA is not relevant to their lives they will not vote. The recent executive election saw a voter turnout of nearly 33%. This represents an increase from last year’s 29% voter turnout. Students are paying attention to what GUSA is doing and agree our work is important.
   3. GUSA implements programs that serve the student body. This past year it has gotten all gender bathrooms as part of the campus plan, capital bikeshare for only $25 dollars a year, gluten free options at Royal Jacket, dorm renovations, and more. These improvements make Georgetown more accessible, safe, and enjoyable for all students. Doing this work is not easy. We need to support our teams.
   4. GUSA provides over 100 students an opportunity for advocacy. At the very least, members of GUSA get a cool title to put on their resume. At its best, dozens of students are putting together plans to make Georgetown better and getting administrators to accept and even implement them. Students gain valuable experiences in lobbying, organizing a team, communications, etc. that they can use in a range of careers. Making sure that GUSA has the resources to keep doing this is important.
   5. GUSA is an avenue for students to voice their complaints to Georgetown’s administration. Roundtables are the main way that students interact with administrators and give students the ability to talk about their experiences with people that can actually improve them.
2. How many clubs/groups compose your organization? Please list them, noting especially any clubs/groups added (or planned to be added) within FY21.
   1. GUSA Executive, GUSA Senate, Student Advocacy Office, DC and Federal Relations Committee
3. What were significant challenges for your organization over the past year? What were significant successes for your organization over the past year?
   1. Over this past year, we struggled with the restrictive nature of our budgets size. We were heavily under-funded and could barely afford basic costs like our website and TurboVote, which are supposed to be standard GUSA costs.
4. Do you have any budget concerns for the next five (5) years?
   1. N/A
5. What level of financial risk does your organization incur? What type of event or circumstance prompts the use of your reserve account?
   1. N/A
6. How could the Budget Summit process be improved this year? How could relations with GUSA be improved?
   1. In terms of the application process - it may be beneficial for future years for the executive elect and senate leadership to apply together. This would allow for a more comprehensive application of the two major groups of GUSA’s.
7. If you are requesting more funding for FY21 than FY20, please explain why.
   1. Our budget comes together after in depth conversations with each part of GUSA to understand their financial needs and goals for the next year. It represents a significant increase from FY20 and FY19, however every dollar requested will be used to advance our organizations projects and interests of the student body. This budget includes following through on current projects like the Go Plastic Free campaign. This budget includes a rigorous events plan for engaging with the student body. This budget includes funding for valuable programs like the Student Activism Summit and Diversity Week. This budget includes community support initiatives like FinApp CARES and the Career Closet Initiative. This budget is arguably the most comprehensive GUSA budget put forth in years and represents a collaboration from every group within GUSA.

**PART E: MEASURE OF SATISFACTION**

For scaled questions numbered 1 through 5, 1 represents the extremity of a negative experience, while 5 represents a positive one.

1. Do you feel FinApp was able to meet all of your funding needs last year? Please explain.
   1. No, last year GUSA was not able to advocate for students in its full capacity because it was severely underfunded. While we agree that it is crucial that the student activities fee reach as many students as possible, it is also crucial for GUSA to have the resources it needs to engage with and advocate for students.
2. How capable were you of promoting your advisory board's agenda and mission given the funding you received? Please have a numeric response from 1 to 5.
   1. 2/5
3. How could FinApp have been more sensitive to the clubs within the advisory boards' needs?
   1. Consider how inaccessible GUSA is when it can’t invest in outreach for transparency or fund its own programs. When GUSA has to rely on its activists to pay in, it is socioeconomically inaccessible and lacks the infrastructure to collaborate with other amazing student organizations.
4. How did your funding capabilities this year compare to that of your Advisory Board Group last year? (Less effective, Equally as effective, More effective.)
   1. Less Effective
5. What feedback did you receive from the organizations you represent? In order to limit negative feedback, consider detailing specific needs from clubs while filling out the budget summit application.
   1. Many Parts of GUSA felt under-funded - especially the GUSA Senate. Upon speaking with a few senators - when asked why some projects weren’t able to get off the ground or fully launched the primary response was monetary restrictions. Specifically - engagement events were severely underfunded and oftentimes senators had to use their own personal funds to ensure these events were able to succeed. In the executive branch, projects like the mental health town hall, administrative roundtable, and diversity week stalled out or were significantly delayed. These events were eventually able to be held but this was only because the CSE graciously covered these expenses or fronted us the money.
6. Do you think that this year's application has given you the ability to demonstrate your funding requests to the best of their ability? If not, how can we improve this application for future years?
   1. This may be a matter of personal ignorance, but I’m not sure who the liaison to the GUSA executive elect is. For the future, it may be helpful for this liaison to reach out especially if the winners are GUSA outsiders.
7. Is there anything you would like to add regarding funding that exceeds the scope of this application?
   1. N/A

**PART F: COMPLIANCE**

Please ensure your organization continues to comply with the 2010 6-Point Reform Plan by **commenting in the affirmative and detailing** how your group is compliant for each of the 6 points individually.

1. The total balance of any advisory board’s reserve account shall not be excessive (as deemed by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs), and boards with surplus funds should provide a plan for their reserves.
2. An appeals process shall be implemented and publicized, where such processes do not already exist, for clubs that are denied full funding for an activity or annual budget under its advisory board.
3. Clubs shall have the option of requesting a lump sum, annual budget with an opportunity to reapply for additional funding from its advisory board.
4. All meetings and recorded minutes of all meetings of an advisory board shall be open to the public, including any and all votes, and that all records are posted online in a timely fashion.
5. Members of the advisory board are, in some way, directly accountable to their constituents or to the student body in general, such as having GUSA Senate confirmation or being elected by the leaders of the clubs they represent.
6. Clubs have reasonable control over all funds that they fundraise outside of the normal allocations process.

We are compliant with this 6-Point Reform Plan.

**PART G: CERTIFICATION**

By signing below, I hereby certify that the information enclosed is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

**Funding Request Form Submitted By: Nicolo Ferretti and Bryce Badger**

**Name of Group Student Chair: Nicolo Ferretti**

**Signature of Group Student Chair (type your name): Nicolo Ferretti**

**Name of Group Advisor: Aysha Dos**

**Signature of Group Advisor (type your name):** Aysha Dos

**Date: 02/21/2020**

**Contact Email: nf232@georgetown.edu**

**Contact Phone Number: ‭(646) 498-6801‬**