

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 that your organization, program, or project contributes to the vitality of student life at Georgetown.

The following application 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 five parts, A through E as explained below. Please be aware that the deadline to submit this form is on **Friday, February 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM.** If you have any concerns or questions with regards to the application process, 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 organization gets enough funding to fulfill their needs and to carry on with its demonstrated impact on the Georgetown community. Please note that FinApp reserves the right to deny a Part B application its entrance into Budget Summit and full consideration for funding.

The Committee 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. 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 B

Please email this application and accompanying materials to gusafinapp@georgetown.edu by **Friday, February 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM.**

**PART A: INTRODUCTION**

Name of Organization: Georgetown University Outdoor Education

Mission of Organization: Through wilderness based endeavors, Georgetown University Outdoor Education seeks to teach, to inspire, and guide students, creating a community where learning, personal challenge, reflection, and increased compassion for others and the environment are fostered as core values.

GMS Worktags: cc2395 1701 pp4002 pg001972 pg000589

Total Amount of Funding Requested: **$12,690**

* OE Guide Training Expenses **- $10,440**
  + Wilderness First Responder course - $750 x 13 = $9,750 ($7,150 after guide contribution)
    - Guides to pay $200 (approximately 25%) for WFR ($2,600)
  + Climbing course - $280 x 6 = $1,680 ($1,080 after guide contribution)
    - Guides to pay $100 x 6 = 100
  + New Staff Course Supplies - $100 x 13 = $1,300
    - There are three backpacking trips 2 days in length that require food and gas to accommodate our staff
  + Final Training Trip Costs - $70 x 13 = $910
    - In order to solidify the knowledge of the new guides, Outdoor Education leads a week long backpacking trip in West Virginia. This guarantees experience and an opportunity for guides to practice the wealth of skills that they have learned.
* OE Gear Purchases - **$2,250**
  + Specific items to be purchased have not yet been decided on. End of the year inventory determines what gear needs to be replaced. Potential items to be purchased (prices indicate the discount that OE receives for being an educational group):
    - Stoves - $90 per stove ($90 total). We need one more.
    - Sleeping bags - $150 per bag x 4 ($600 total), need up to 12 per trip.
    - Backpacks -$250 x 4 ($1000 total), GOPOP can put as many as 50 first-year students in the field at the same time, they could all need backpacks.
    - Climbing shoes - $100 per pair x 4 ($400 total), these need to be replaced periodically and we need a wide size range.
    - Water filtration system 4 x $40 ($160 total) -- this is needed to provide participants with access to clean water in the backcountry

**PART B: FINANCIALS**

Please complete [this Financial Information](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OPl0EmlIjfgKqFRuTLg2VVHfShv3SdPd/view?usp=sharing) (B) FY21 excel document and attach it to your email submission.

**PART C: IMPACT**

Please answer the following questions in detail and provide any relevant documents:

1. Describe the program/project you would like to fund, implement or enhance.

**OE Guide Training**

*The Guide Training Process*:

All Outdoor Education (OE) trips are run by student guides. In the fall, student guides are selected through an interview process. During the fall semester, these guides-in-training spend one night per week in the classroom learning leadership and group management skills and outdoors in surrounding parks and wilderness spaces learning and practicing technical skills. These sessions are supported by three overnight weekend training trips, which include transportation, equipment, and food costs.

The Spring semester requires new guides to spend time with a veteran mentor guide and time in the field shadowing trips. At the end of the semester, new guides participate on a weeklong capstone backpacking trip in which they put all the skills they have learned over the course of the year into practice.

This training process is of the utmost importance. It is essential that new guides receive proper training so that they are prepared to handle unexpected situations, like medical emergencies, in the outdoors. Thus, during the spring semester, new guides take part in the Wilderness First Responder medical training program, a week-long intensive course during their spring break that prepares them to handle medical situations in the outdoors and keep their participants safe. The Wilderness First Responder course ensures that guides are equipped with the necessary skills to protect themselves and their participants. (A WFR course typically costs $900 – $1,000, a major inhibition to guides without the financial resources to pay for this. OE tries to manage this course by hosting a WFR program to try and control costs @ $750 per guide.) Without GUSA’s continuous funding to subsidize the WFR course, Outdoor Education will be unable to attain its goal of increasing socioeconomic diversity. With a high sticker price, Outdoor Education will deter valuable guides from applying to the organization, perpetuating the elitist club culture that is prevalent on our campus. With GUSA’s funding we will foster a more inclusive environment, representative of the Georgetown population.

*OE Gear Purchases:*

Backpacks, stoves, ropes, climbing shoes, tents, water filtration systems, etc. are all tools/resources that OE uses to provide high quality and safe experiences for the GU community. Outdoor gear is durable and tough, but it does need to be replaced regularly. With support from GUSA, OE will not have to factor gear replacement costs into trip budgets. This will reduce the price of trips for GU students, making these trips more accessible to students from all backgrounds.

*OE Programming:*

Based on research, we have a heightened interest from both guides and participants in running water trips, like white-water kayaking, rafting, stand-up paddleboarding. These trips are an incredibly fun and unique way of getting participants outdoors into nature. These trips are, generally speaking, more expensive to run because of equipment needs, training needs from professional guides, and transportation costs.

1. How are decisions made about the direction of this program? How are students  
   involved in the decision making process?

Students are at the forefront of all decisions that are made for Outdoor Education. While we do have a Georgetown employee, Kris, that oversees the management, our relationship is more of a collaboration. At the end of the day, major decisions are made in cooperation between Kris and the entire club. We have monthly brainstorming meetings where all members of the club are able to voice their opinions and concerns. Moreover, even the newest members are involved in the decision making process from the beginning of their tenure. This structure allows the most involvement for our members, and the most mature leadership turnover, ensuring that our leaders are educated, minimizing training processes. One room for growth that we plan on implementing, is semesterly meetings that are open to the Georgetown body, so that we are not constrained to an insulated body. Outdoor education is actively trying to partner with and engage with other community groups on campus, such as upcoming hikes with Casa Latina and Hoya Snaps.

1. In what ways does this program/project enhance student life at Georgetown  
   University? How many students will it affect?

One of the biggest complaints by fellow Georgetown students, is how constrained they feel to the Georgetown and DC bubble. Outdoor education opens up a world of possibility to explore the world-class nature that surrounds the DMV area. At the end of the day, college is a place to learn and explore new things. First and foremost, Outdoor Education wants to teach its participants on how to engage in safe wilderness exploration, conservancy, and wilderness appreciation. Second of all, it is an opportunity for Georgetown students to push themselves out of their comfort zones and participate in a myriad of thrill-seeking adventures. Without Outdoor Education, such wilderness exploration trips would be significantly inhibited on the basis of cost and access. Outdoor Education provides the ideal one stop shop for all students with various levels of interest and experience in the outdoors.

1. What funding sources currently support this program? Will these sources continue to provide funding at the same level this year? What other sources have been explored before coming to GUSA?

Outdoor Education is a department within the Center for Student Engagement and is allocated an annual budget. The vast majority of the budget goes to operating expenses for the program, not directly to OE trips or student training. The funds requested from GUSA specifically will allow OE to train high-quality, educated, and prepared guides *and* keep costs lower for students who wish to participate.

Funding for OE from CSE is expected to be the same for 2020/2021. This means we will rely entirely on GUSA to fund student training and equipment purchases.

1. Will this program comply with all University policies?

As part of the Center for Student Engagement, this program is required to abide by all University policies at all times. Moreover, we have a full time staff member who is dedicated to ensuring this.

1. What level of financial risk does this project entail?

Extremely low. OE has a long history of serving a variety of students from the Georgetown community. It is highly likely that demand will remain high for OE trips and demand will remain high for students who wish to be trained as guides

1. In what way will this program/project expand or relieve a financial burden on  
   students participating in this program?

All dollars being requested are to lower the financial burden students face for participating on OE trips or becoming guides for the program. Through recent years, accessibility has been at the forefront of the goals of outdoor education. For example, guides on our pre-orientation program, GOPOP, used to be paid, however we recognized that this was inhibiting students from low income backgrounds from participating. As a result, the guides collectively decided to remit their pay out of love for the organization and for the necessity of inclusion. Ever since, we have been able to provide substantial scholarship for our pre orientation, by far the most expensive program we run. Other trips typically cost from $5-15, a range that we seriously hope will not be inhibiting to members of the Georgetown community.

It is important to note that: 1) OE guides are volunteers, they are not paid. The dollars requested here would significantly lower the cost for students to participate in the training class. Additionally, 2) gear needs to be replaced. Rather than passing the replacement costs onto trip participants, OE could utilize requested dollars to purchase new gear. This would lower the cost of OE trips for GU students and increase accessibility to the outdoors. **Access to the outdoors should never be a financial burden for Georgetown students.**

1. What is the long-term financial impact of this project? Will there be ongoing  
   maintenance costs?

**OE Guide Training**: students who are selected to be OE guides are expected to be guides for their entire Georgetown tenure. Investing in a first-year student pays off by having that student leading trips for three years. This is an investment that pays off in the increased safety of our programs and in the increased quality of our programs.

**Gear Replacement:** Gear always needs to be replaced. Having functioning gear not only ensures the safety of our trips but also increases the quality of the experience for our participants. There are always maintenance costs in terms of replacing gear, but these specific costs are addressed annually at our budget meeting with GUSA. This year, gear costs are less of a concern.

1. Will this program need more money in future years? To the best of your ability  
   provide information on project costs for the next two years.

Outdoor Education needs annual funding. These costs remain relatively constant over the years, as training and gear replacement are yearly demands.

1. Has your organization/group previously applied to the Budget Summit? How much was the organization allocated? How was it used?

Yes. GUOE was allocated $6,500 last year. These dollars will all be spent on training.

* $6,050 13 guides WFR expenses
  + 5 @ $330
  + 8 @$550
* $450 on climbing training

**PART D: MEASURE OF SATISFACTION**

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

1. Do you feel FinApp was able to meet all of your funding needs last year? Please explain.

* FinnApp was not able to meet all of OE’s funding needs last year. OE requested $12,300 and received $6,500.

1. If applicable, 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.
   * NA
2. How could FinApp have been more sensitive to the clubs within the advisory boards' needs?
   * NA
3. How did your funding capabilities this year compare to that of your Advisory Board Group last year? (Less effective, Equally as effective, More effective.)
   * NA
4. 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.
   * NA
5. 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?
   * Yes. The FinnApp application and process allows OE to demonstrate need.

**PART E: CERTIFICATION**

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

**Funding Request Form Submitted By:**  Kris Nessler

**OE Guides Assisting in Funding Request:** Brian Britt, Reed Hasson

**Signature (type your name):**  Kris Nessler

**Name of Group Advisor:** N/A

**Signature (type your name):** N/A

**Date:** 2/20/2020

**Contact Email:** [kwn6@georgetown.edu](mailto:kwn6@georgetown.edu)

**Contact Phone Number:** 202-687-8419