The Office of the Provost, in collaboration with the Morgridge Center for Public Service, invites applications for Wisconsin Idea Fellowships. These Fellowships provide undergraduate students with the opportunity to use and expand their knowledge through service-learning/community-based research projects with community organizations anywhere in the world. Projects can be of varying durations and must be supervised by faculty or instructional academic staff.

All proposals should demonstrate (1) intellectual growth for the student; (2) benefits to the community organization; and (3) collaboration among the student, faculty/staff supervisor, and community organization in planning, implementing, and evaluating the project. Students are each responsible for completing 3 academic credits of independent/directed study, supervised research or senior thesis for the project during the 2023-24 academic year or summer session, supervised by a faculty/instructor mentor. These credits are mandatory.

The Fellowship provides up to $7000 for group projects and up to $5000 for individual projects. Students can use all the funding for supplies and expenses to implement the project or designate some of their award as a tuition scholarship. The amount students can receive and designate as scholarship varies based on the length of their project. The Morgridge Center for Public Service will work with awardees’ departments to administer project funds. Students electing to designate part of their funds as scholarship will receive half prior to beginning their project and the final portion upon successful completion of their fellowship project. All scholarship funds will be administered through the Bursar’s Office and applied to your tuition bill(s). Each fellowship recipient will be required to participate in the Undergraduate Symposium in April 2024, submit final written materials, and participate in an exit interview.

Applications must be received in the Morgridge Center (online application strongly preferred) on or before the final deadline of February 13th, 2023 at 5:00 pm. There will be a priority deadline of January 30th, 2023 at 5:00 pm. If turned in by this date, applications are guaranteed to be reviewed and returned by the grant advisor with comments by February 6th, 5:00 pm.

Applicants MUST RESUBMIT their applications by the final deadline February 13th, 2023 by 5:00 pm. for consideration. Late proposals will not be accepted. Students awarded a fellowship will be notified in mid-March.

WHO

University of Wisconsin-Madison undergraduate students who have at least sophomore standing by credit hours at the time of application. Applicants must have an overall GPA of at least 2.0 and be in good academic standing. Students must maintain their undergraduate status during implementation of the project. Only one application per student will be accepted for consideration, and individual faculty/instructional staff members may supervise no more than two student projects in this competition.

HOW

Submit the following through the online application:

- An application form (typed or clearly printed) with original signatures;
- An abstract of the proposed project (250 typed words or less);
- A description of the project (no more than 5 typed double-spaced pages);
- A current UW-Madison transcript: either a “student record” obtained via My UW or an official seal-bearing transcript is acceptable;
• Letters of support from the faculty/staff supervisor and the community organization partner;
• Budget: an estimate of what the project will cost and how these costs will be met.

WHERE
Application materials, priority and final applications are found on the WIF Canvas page:
https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/325652

WHEN
Priority Deadline: January 30th, at 5pm. Feedback is guaranteed by February 6th, 5pm.
Final Deadline: February 13th, at 5pm.
Notification: Before spring break

CRITERIA

• The project description (not more than 5 double-spaced pages) should include: (a) the purpose of the project, (b) a summary of the major activities to implement project, (c) a feasible timeline for completion, (d) a discussion of how the project will yield one or more of the following benefits to students and community advisor, and (e) a plan for evaluating benefits and impacts.

• Letters of support are required from the faculty/instructional staff supervisor and the community partner. Letters should attest to the value of the project and should discuss the collaboration of all three parties in its planning, implementation, and evaluation.

• Feasibility of the project within the time frame and resources available must be clear. Other monetary or in-kind resources for the project should be noted in the proposal and verified in letters of support.

• Proposals should be comprehensible to faculty/instructional staff in related and to community organizations. Proposals must demonstrate collaborative planning among the student, the faculty/ instructional staff supervisor, and the community organization; however, the proposal must be written by the student.

• Selection committee members will select projects that address community-identified priorities and utilize community knowledge, resources, and infrastructure.

• Priority will be given to projects that work towards social change and equity.

QUESTIONS
For more information contact:
Julia Schiller, Morgridge Center’s WIF Graduate Mentor, jschiller3@wisc.edu