

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

What is the Climate Solutions Acceleration Fund?

The Climate Solutions Acceleration Fund, is a small innovation fund that is dedicated to supporting the scaling of Second Nature's climate action acceleration activities. Proposal applications for the funding are openly sourced during the application period.

If our school is not a signatory of The Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitments or a UC3 member, can we still apply for this Fund?

Unfortunately, no. This Fund is specifically to help support the climate action efforts of colleges and universities that are either a signatory or a UC3 member. If you are interested in learning how to become either, please contact us at: info@secondnature.org.

Who from the college or university can apply?

Any faculty or staff affiliated with an eligible university can apply for funding. Students may also submit applications, but they should include a sponsor or advisor who is a faculty or staff member.

When is the application period?

The application period kicked off at the same time the Fund was announced at the [2020 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit](#). The deadline to apply for funding is Friday, April 3, 2020.

How much funding can we apply for?

You can apply for anywhere between \$5,000 to \$10,000, however, there is no guarantee that if you are awarded funding, that you will be awarded all of the funding that you applied for.

What types of projects are eligible?

The funding may be used for project implementation, or to support climate action planning activities. All proposals must advance cross-sector (campus and external

stakeholders) climate action. Priority will be placed on funding proposals that foster long-term campus-community partnerships, and have the potential to scale beyond the grant term. Priority will also be placed on climate action that is inclusive for all segments of the population, and proposals that promote equitable and just outcomes. Second Nature will strive to support proposals from a variety of institution type and location.

How will my proposal be reviewed?

Proposals will be evaluated by a Review Committee of campus representatives and Second Nature staff. The criteria for review are:

- Involvement of key community stakeholders
- Incorporation of principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Potential for scaled impact
- Potential for development of long-term campus-community relationships
- Meaningful impact on reducing GHG emissions and/or building climate resilience
- Recognition of the urgency of the climate crisis

How many proposals will be awarded?

For this pilot round of funding, between 5-10 proposals will be funded. Depending on the success of this first round, Second Nature hopes to be able to offer additional funding opportunities in the future.

What are The Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitments?

Climate action commitments that college/university presidents/chancellors have signed onto. There are three commitments: the Climate Commitment, the Carbon Commitment, and the Resilience Commitment. For more information, click [here](#).

What is the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3)?

UC3 is a coalition of leading North American research universities that will prototype a collaborative model designed to help local communities achieve their climate goals and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future. For more information, click [here](#).

Have a specific question that isn't listed above? Please contact us

at: innovation@secondnature.org