



Solutions Center

Pro Bono Consulting Application Instructions:

Colleges and universities that are [Climate Leadership Network](#) signatories and/or [University Climate Change Coalition \(UC3\)](#) members are eligible to apply for technical assistance through this opportunity.

Winners will receive pro bono strategic advisory services worth between \$7,500 and \$10,000. This advice will advance efforts at the campus to reduce or eliminate their CO2 emissions while also reducing operating costs. Second Nature anticipates awarding free services to six campuses.

The application requires some background research and communication with stakeholders to gain buy-in and support. In most instances, the application itself should take no more than two hours to complete. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of volunteers; this committee will include staff from Second Nature and the two sponsors ([Brailsford & Dunlavey](#) and [CustomerFirst Renewables](#)).

Applications are due on our before Friday, December 18, 2020.

Eligible Projects

This initiative is to accelerate action in:

1. **Climate Action Planning:** Winning campuses will receive advisory services to support the drafting of a climate action plan or the revisions to an existing plan. This service is provided by [Brailsford & Dunlavey](#).
2. **Shifting to Renewable Power:** Winning campuses will receive advisory services to support a transition to renewable power. The pro bono assistance will assess the institutions' energy situation, identify renewable energy solutions, and recommend next steps for implementing one or more of the solutions. This service is provided by [CustomerFirst Renewables](#).

Whenever possible, proposals should advance cross-campus collaboration (e.g. from Finance, Facilities, Admissions, Sustainability, and/or Provost/Faculty.). Priority will be placed on initiatives that foster long-term collaboration and partnerships, and projects that have the potential to identify cost savings and to scale. Second Nature will strive to support proposals from a variety of institution types and locations.

The persons submitting the application must demonstrate that they have the team or sufficient individual agency to implement the project if it is awarded. Winners will be expected to participate in upcoming Second Nature programs, such as a public webinar about climate action on their campus or a presentation during the Climate Action Pursuit, a series of programs being convened by Second Nature in 2021.

Review criteria include but are not limited to:

- Involvement of key stakeholders
- Meaningful impact on reducing GHG emissions
- Potential for scaled impact and potential cost savings
- Potential for development of long-term campus relationships
- Potential to elevate the role of campuses as a demonstrator / accelerator

Only campuses that are active Climate Leadership Network signatories or UC3 members are eligible to participate in this competition. If you are uncertain of the status of your campus, please contact Eric Howard (ehoward@secondnature.org).

Timeline

- **December 1, 2020:** Application Review Begins
 - **December 18, 2020:** Final Application Deadline
 - **Mid-Late January 2021:** Awards will be Announced
 - **February 1, 2021 (most likely):** Award Implementation Begins
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Specific Instructions

The application form has 13 questions, including a description of what your institution plans to do, information about campus stakeholders/their interest in this opportunity, prior activities, matching funds (if applicable), and the decision-making authority of the person who submitted the application.

Climate Action Planning: Up to three winning campuses will receive advisory services to support the drafting of a climate action plan (CAP) or the revisions to an existing CAP. This service is provided by [Brailsford & Dunlavey](#).

In preparing your response please consider the following:

- *Has your institution already drafted a CAP? If so, please describe. If it is posted publicly, please provide the link to the webpage.*
- *Does your institution have any particular concerns?*
- *Who are the campus stakeholders who would be required to approve a Climate Action Plan? Please describe their level of interest in and support for pursuing this action.*

Shifting to Renewable Power: Up to three winning campuses will receive advisory services to support a transition to renewable power. The pro bono assistance will assess the institutions' energy situation, identify renewable energy solutions, and recommend next steps for implementing one or more of the solutions. This service is provided by [CustomerFirst Renewables](#).

In preparing your response please consider the following:

- *Has your institution already investigated your renewable energy options? If so, please describe.*
- *Does your institution have a specific renewable energy strategy in mind? If so, please describe, e.g. "onsite solar of about X-Y kW," or "offsite PPA for about XYZ MWh/year," or "participate in the ABC program offered by our regulated utility, XYZ."*
- *What is your annual electricity consumption in kWh or MWh and your approximate cost of electricity per kWh?*
- *Who are the campus stakeholders who would be required to approve a renewable energy strategy? Please describe their level of interest in and support for pursuing renewable energy.*

Questions? Please contact Eric Howard at ehoward@secondnature.org