Pro Bono Consulting
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

What is this Pro Bono Consulting Opportunity?
This initiative will help campuses across North America reduce their carbon dioxide emissions. Proposal applications are openly sourced during the application period, and up to six campuses will receive the pro bono consulting services.

What types of projects are eligible?
This initiative aims to accelerate climate action in one of two areas:

- Climate Action Planning: Winning campuses will receive up to $7,500 in pro bono 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.
- Shifting to Renewable Power: Winning campuses will receive up to $10,000 in pro bono advisory services to support a transition to renewable power. The assistance can assess the institutions' energy situation, identify renewable energy solutions, and/or recommend next steps for implementing one or more of the solutions. This service is provided by CustomerFirst Renewables.

Can we apply if our school is not an active Climate Leadership Network signatory or a member of the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3)?
Unfortunately, no. This initiative 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 not sure of your campus’ status or if you are interested in learning how to become either, please contact Eric Howard at 617-435-7222 or ehoward@secondnature.org

Who from the college or university can apply?
Any professional staff or faculty affiliated with an eligible campus can apply provided that they have the authority to collaborate with the professionals at Second Nature and its partners on the proposed initiative.

How can I learn more?
There will be a webinar at 2 pm (EST) on Tuesday, November 24. The webinar will be recorded and posted online. GoToWebinar Registration Form

When is the application period?
The application period began on November 5, 2020, and reviews of early applications will begin on December 1, 2020. The deadline to apply is Friday, December 18, 2020.

How much pro-bono support will we receive?
Campuses will each receive pro-bono support valued between $7,500 and $10,000.
How will my proposal be reviewed?
Proposals will be evaluated by a Review Committee composed of representatives from Second Nature, CustomerFirst Renewables, and Brailsford & Dunlavey. We will strive to support proposals from a variety of institution types and locations. 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

How many proposals will be awarded?
For this pilot round, up to six proposals will be funded. Depending on the success of this first round, Second Nature hopes to be able to offer additional opportunities in the future.

What is the Climate Leadership Network?
The Climate Leadership Network is a program of Second Nature that provides: resources, networking, and national engagement opportunities for signatories of The Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitments, the oldest voluntary commitment to achieve carbon neutrality in the world. More information.

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. More information.

Have a specific question that isn’t listed above?
Please contact Eric Howard, Director of Strategic Partnerships at ehoward@secondnature.org or 617-435-7222.