

2024 Student Basic Needs Michelson Spark Grant

Letter of Interest

Please provide the following information for your organization:

Name:

Mission:

City and State:

Website

EIN:

Year of founding:

Is your organization registered as a 501(c)(3)?

Yes No

Please provide the following information for your application's main point of contact if the grant is awarded.

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone Number:

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The following questions allow us to learn about how your staff reflects the population you serve.

Is your organization led by someone who is Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Color (BIPOC)?

Yes No Choose not to disclose

Is your organization led by someone who identifies as a minority gender identity (e.g. cisgendered woman), non-binary (e.g. genderqueer, gender fluid, etc.), transgender, or is a member of an otherwise gender expansive identity?

Yes No Choose not to disclose

BIPOC representation on your board (or other governing body)

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

BIPOC representation in your organization's leadership

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

BIPOC representation in your organization's staff

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

LGBTQIA+ representation in your organization's staff

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

We welcome any comments or explanations about the demographic representation in your organization.



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Has your organization submitted a proposal for any previous Michelson Spark Grant rounds?

Yes No Unsure

Amount of funding requested for this grant:

Is your proposed project new or existing?

New Existing Existing with incremental impact

Input grant period in number of months.

Will your project impact California students?

Yes No

Were students involved in developing this proposal and/or will they be involved in the execution if funded?

Yes No

If yes, please expand. (150 words)



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Select which focus area your project would address. Select all that apply

- Systemic approaches and actionable strategies for higher education systems to implement state and/or federal policies addressing student housing and food insecurity. This could include:
 - Implementing and integrating policies, such as AB 2033 (electronic benefit transfer on Campus), AB 132 (Basic Needs Coordinators on Campus), and AB 396 (CalFresh Educational programs)
 - Addressing the gap in CalFresh enrollment among students who meet eligibility requirements
 - Fulfilling state mandates by strengthening campus capacities and providing Basic Needs Coordinators with technical assistance training
- Best practices to support students who are ineligible for public benefits, state aid, and federal aid. Students ineligible for state or federal aid can include but are not limited to, undocumented students, DACAmented/Dreamers, and/or international students. Efforts may include:
 - Researching projects that examine the effects of current policies on ineligible students' access to basic needs and education
 - Implementing ally training programs for academic and financial advisors, faculty, and staff to understand the specific limitations and opportunities for ineligible students. Equipping them to advocate on behalf of students within institutional systems and to guide students in accessing basic needs resources
 - Forming committees or task forces to review and recommend changes to institutional policies that hinder ineligible students' access to resources. These efforts would focus on areas such as tuition equity, scholarship eligibility, and access to campus facilities
 - Providing training to students on policy advocacy, leadership skills, and community organizing as a way to promote student power and voice



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- Innovative approaches and promising practices to promote positive academic outcomes for students receiving direct financial assistance aimed at mitigating student basic needs concerns. This could include research, evaluation, or efforts that scale the impact of public benefits assistance, tax credits for eligible students, universal basic income, guaranteed income programs, and approaches to liquidating institutional Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) dollars. Efforts may include:
 - Impacting the outcomes of guaranteed income programs for specific student populations
 - Using Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) dollars and academic outcomes for student parents
 - Providing financial literacy workshops to educate students about tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the California Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit, and federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit that can help them maximize their financial resources

Please provide an overview of the project you are proposing including the amount of funding requested and usage of funds. Be sure to include which population(s) would be impacted by the grant. Please also include a proposed timeline for grant usage. (500 word max)



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Describe the three (3) metrics or Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) you are measuring as part of this project to gauge success of this program below.

Does your project have the potential to impact public policy? If so, how? (200 words max)

Please upload any related documents you would like us to review.



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The following questions allow us to learn about the population you serve.

What percentage of the population you serve is BIPOC?

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

What percentage of the population you serve is LGBTQIA+?

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of the population you serve is system impacted?
System impacted includes people affected in a negative way by their incarceration or of a close relative as well as those who have been arrested and/or convicted without incarceration.**

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

What percentage of the population you serve is economically disadvantaged?

<25% 25-49% 50-74% 75-100% Choose not to disclose

We welcome any comments or explanation about the demographic of the population you serve.

Is it important for you to receive grant funding within the accelerated turnaround of the Spark Grant program? If so, why? (100 words max)



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How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

- Michelson 20MM Site Previous familiarity with Michelson 20MM
 Email Outreach Direct Referral from a Michelson 20MM Partner
 Article/blog post Social Media Other

Did you meet with the Program Manager prior to submitting this LOI? While not required we encourage you to share your idea with our Program Manager in advance for insights as to whether or not your proposal is aligned with our funding priorities. ([Schedule a meeting here](#)).

- Yes No

How many hours did this LOI take to prepare and submit?

On average, how long does it take for your organization to receive a response from other funders on grant proposals?

Would you like to be added to the following mailing lists? Select all that apply.

- Michelson Spark Grants Student Basic Needs Initiative Updates
 General Michelson 20MM Foundation

Is there anything else you would like to tell us related to your proposal?

