

2023-2024 UCAIR Grants Request for Proposals

The Utah Clean Air Partnership (UCAIR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, non-governmental organization created to make it easier for individuals, businesses and communities to make small changes to improve Utah's air. Every small change contributes to collective bigger steps toward better health, a better economy and better overall quality of life for all.

OVERVIEW OF THE UCAIR GRANTS PROGRAM

Since 2013, the UCAIR Grants Program has encouraged Utah's businesses, government entities and nonprofit organizations to bring forward creative and innovative ideas to address air quality. The goal of the UCAIR Grants Program is to reduce emissions of criteria and precursor pollutants that cause Utah's year-round challenges with poor air quality. The complex issue of air quality requires a comprehensive approach, and applicants are encouraged to propose projects in any area that may decrease pollutants within our state.

PREFERRED FUNDING PRIORITIES

For the 2023-2024 UCAIR Grant cycle, the UCAIR Grant Selection Committee invites proposals for projects and programs addressing one or more of the following preferred areas of focus:

1. Reduction of emissions from area sources
 - Projects/programs should focus on reducing emissions from area sources, which are defined as smaller, stationary sources of air pollution that contribute to both wintertime inversion and summertime ozone seasons. Examples of area sources include, but are not limited to, residential homes and commercial sources, such as dry cleaners, print shops, gas stations and auto body paint shops.
2. Targeting summertime precursor emissions
 - Projects/programs should specifically address the reduction of precursor emissions, such as nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), that contribute to ozone pollution in the summer months.
3. Implementation of emerging technologies
 - Projects/programs should leverage emerging technologies to achieve measurable emissions reductions.
4. Reduction of emissions in underserved areas
 - Projects/programs should target emissions reduction in at least one of the following:
 - a) Socioeconomically disadvantaged communities;
 - b) Areas of opportunity (geographic, industry, sector) that have not received adequate financial support.

GRANT PARTNERSHIPS

UCAIR welcomes partner organizations who share our commitment. We strongly encourage partners to collaborate on projects that advance their joint program goals and contribute to our shared objective. Special consideration will be given to projects with innovative alliances.

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF CONSIDERATION

In alignment with UCAIR's mission, UCAIR Grant funds must be used to reduce the criteria pollutants that degrade Utah's air quality, either directly or through longer-term effects related to social change. UCAIR recognizes that this can be achieved in many ways, and we may accept Letters of Intent for projects that fall outside the preferred areas listed above given that they demonstrate impact or scale to improve air quality in innovative and creative ways.

AREAS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

While UCAIR is supportive of efforts in the areas below, we recognize that they are being addressed through alternative funding mechanisms or do not align with our mission. Substantial state and private funding have been recently allocated to support electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure and air quality sensors. In order to maximize the impact of our limited grant resources, UCAIR will prioritize other endeavors at this time. We encourage you to contact us for more information regarding alternative funding opportunities that may be available for these areas.

As advised by the UCAIR Grant Selection Committee, funding for the upcoming cycle will not be awarded to the following areas:

- Installation and/or support of air quality measurement instruments
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- General education and awareness, including toolkits
- Political speech

GRANT TIMELINE

Grant Application Opens	Monday, June 12, 2023
Letter of Intent Form Due	Friday, August 4, 2023
Responses Sent to Prospective Applicants	Friday, August 25, 2023
Full Applications Due	Friday, September 29, 2023
Grant Recipient Announcement	Friday, November 17, 2023

Please note that the timeline provided is subject to change at the discretion of UCAIR.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1: LETTER OF INTENT

The initial step in the application process involves submitting a concise Letter of Intent. This step enables UCAIR to gain a preliminary understanding of funding interests and types of projects. Most importantly, it allows the UCAIR Grant Selection Committee to provide feedback to the applicant organization regarding the suitability of the project's focus and scope for a UCAIR grant. The Letter of Intent Form can be downloaded from the UCAIR website: <https://www.ucair.org/grants/>. Completed Letter of Intent Forms should be emailed to grants@ucair.org. Once LOIs have been evaluated, applicant organizations will receive feedback and may be invited to proceed with a full application.

STEP 2: INVITATION TO APPLY

After review of the Letters of Intent, applicant organizations who are selected to proceed will be provided with a comprehensive application form. For those parties who did not submit a Letter of Intent but are interested in completing a full application, please reach out to the UCAIR Grant Manager. Completed applications should be emailed to grants@ucair.org.

GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Funding Prioritization:

- Funding will be prioritized based on the anticipated amount of actual emissions reduction from the projects.
- Projects that can be replicated or that demonstrate scope to create additional emissions reductions will receive priority for funding.

Proposal Guidelines:

- Proposals must delineate the metrics and/or performance standards that will be used to quantify outcomes and/or emissions reductions.
- The average of all UCAIR Grants awarded is \$21,404, but proposals of varying sizes are accepted.
- Larger projects will undergo thorough review and must demonstrate commensurate emissions reductions.
- Projects are typically expected to have a one-year duration.

Grant Limitations and Exclusions:

- Applicants must be private-sector, public-sector or nonprofit organizations. Grants will not be made to individuals.
- Grants will be considered for for-profit organizations if the project furthers UCAIR's charitable purpose or results in direct, measurable emissions reductions.
 - For-profit grants will be capped at 50% of the total project cost or a maximum of \$20,000. For-profit organizations will be expected to contribute matching funds.
- UCAIR Grants cannot fund projects involving lobbying, political speech or any form of political activity.

- Strategic, start-up, investment capital and infrastructure support are not eligible for UCAIR Grants.

Grant Agreement and Disbursement:

- All grants will be subject to a partnership agreement between UCAIR and the successful recipient.
- UCAIR Grant funds will be directly dispersed via check to the applicant organization. Checks will not be issued to third-party organizations or entities.
- In the case of a grant awarded to a small business, funding may be sent directly to a vendor with prior written approval from the UCAIR Grant Manager.

GRANT MANAGEMENT PROCESS

UCAIR GRANT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Successful applicants chosen to receive funding will be required to sign a UCAIR Grant Partnership Agreement. The purpose of this agreement is to maximize the effectiveness of UCAIR's mission by facilitating partnerships with organizations dedicated to improving Utah's air quality. Our intention is to establish regular communication and actively engage in the project's development and implementation whenever possible and appropriate.

PROJECT REPORTING AND MONITORING

Under the UCAIR Grant Partnership Agreement, recipients are required to submit a mid-year report on the progress of the project on Friday, June 28, 2024. The report should include:

- Brief narrative on status of the project.
- Brief evaluation of projected outcomes and/or emissions reductions achieved to date (or projected emissions for emerging technology grants), including measurable data.
- Budget update on the project with statement of funds spent to date.

Recipients are also required to provide a final report on Friday, November 8, 2024. The report should include:

- Detailed report on the status of the project.
- Detailed evaluation of emissions reduced or program results, including measurable data.
- Detailed final budget report on the funded project.
- Future plans for the project, if not concluded by report deadline.
- Stories about the project to be shared with UCAIR Board, funding sources and media.

PROJECT MODIFICATIONS

Please carefully consider your project proposal. It should provide a fair and accurate presentation of the project and your funding needs – neither exaggerated nor diminished. If there are significant changes to your project after your application has been submitted, it is your responsibility to notify UCAIR as soon as possible. This applies to changes in budget, timelines, location, scope, outcomes measurement and funding, including additional funding received from other sources. UCAIR is committed to working with your organization to address any necessary project modifications through a collaborative project modification agreement.