

BCOS WORKING GROUP GRANT APPLICATION



Date June 6, 2024

Name Jon Eldon

Title BCOS/IU Sustainability Assessment Student Intern

To ensure that your application is complete and addresses all the necessary information, we kindly request that all applicants provide the following details:

Description of Project: Please provide a comprehensive description of the project, including its goals, objectives, and expected outcomes. Additionally, outline the activities that will be undertaken to achieve these objectives and how they align with the mission of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability.

I would like to integrate BCOS and broader Bloomington sustainability efforts with a new IU course on Sustainability Assessment that I will be teaching in Spring 2025.

I am asking for up to \$1000 from the Commission to support a student research intern to work with myself and BCOS in the months leading up to this class to survey sustainability-related assessment topics and strategies, optional certification schemes, and mandatory reporting requirements.

I will work with the students of the class to produce rigorous but readable summaries and evaluations of the wide variety of assessments and improvement options related to sustainability, local guidance on where and how to start, and detailed case studies of local individuals and organizations that have or are undertaking efforts to understand and improve their sustainability.

Phase 1: Surveys via an IU/BCOS student intern (ASAP - Dec 2024)

Up to \$1000 requested from the commission to hire a student intern (\$15-20/hr) to work with myself and potentially other members of the Commission to:

- Survey and evaluate the types of sustainability-related assessments that are used or might be relevant for individuals and organizations in the Bloomington area. These will likely include:
 - Common focal areas for assessment and improvement (energy, water, waste, biodiversity, GHGs, etc) and associated audit/evaluation strategies
 - Optional certification schemes (Organic, Fair Trade, LEEDs, etc) and associated supervisory/support organizations
 - Mandatory reporting requirements and other regulatory oversight, as applicable
- Survey diverse organizations in Bloomington to determine awareness of and interest in the above. The focus is expected to be on **residential homes, small businesses, industrial businesses, and public or non-profit organizations.**
 - The selection here will be for organizations that have both high potential impact and high public awareness/interaction. I am tentatively planning to

focus on:

- Food products, farms, vendors, and restaurants
- Vehicles types/models, dealerships, and mechanic shops
- Public schools
- Identification of individuals and organizations interested in partnering with the IU course for more in-depth student-led case study assessments.

Phase 2: Spring IU course (Jan-May 2025)

BCOS/Bloomington related outputs (created by IU students during the course but for release to a broader audience)

- Summaries and comparisons of the common assessment strategies and certification schemes, organized as described above (homeowners, business owners, public managers, etc)
- How to get started guides (common strategies, local contractors, etc)
- Case studies of local individuals and organizations that undergo sustainability assessments (lessons learned, cost/benefit of various options, etc)
 - o Again, to be produced by students as a public-facing document

Purpose: Clearly state the purpose of the project and how it addresses a specific need or challenge within the community. Explain how the project's objectives align with the mission and priorities of the organization.

The mission of Bloomington Commission on Sustainability (BCOS) is to promote sustainable socio-environmental-economic well-being of Bloomington and all its inhabitants.

This project would support BCOS in becoming a source of information and support for people in the community who are interested in understanding and improving the sustainability of their homes, businesses, purchases, and other aspects of their lives. It would also enable BCOS to produce their own high-quality sustainability assessments for use by the public, City administration, and the City Council.

Amount Requested: Specify the total amount of funding requested. Provide a detailed breakdown of how the funds will be allocated, including budget estimates for various project components, such as materials, equipment, and any other relevant expenses. If applicable, indicate if additional funding from other sources has been secured or is being sought. BCOS is a volunteer commission, personal time spent on the project will not be paid.

\$1,000 to support an IU/BCOS student intern at \$15-\$20 / hr

Vendor Name: Identify any specific vendors or suppliers that will be involved in the project and provide their names and contact information. If relevant, include details of any existing agreements or partnerships with these vendors.

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We appreciate your attention to these requirements, as they will help us evaluate and compare applications more effectively. Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Shawn Miya at shawn.miya@bloomington.in.gov