**Afghan Civic Engagement Program**

***Program Description***

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| Afghan Civic Engagement Program (ACEP) is pleased to announce funding is available for students working/willing to work on community or socially-based projects and/or organizing, engaged in activism, or who are leading community-based Model UN and/or debate.Applications may be submitted **until the deadline of October 10, 2023 (Tuesday, 09:00 a.m.).** Awards will be made pending the availability of funds.  |
| **Eligibility** |
| All AUCA Afghan students from 2019 & 2020 cohorts are eligible to apply for funding to ACEP. |
| **All proposals must:**  |
| 1. Clearly indicate the primary thematic area for consideration;
2. Clearly define what value the projects brings to its participants;
3. Projects must happen off campus;
4. Projects must benefit people beyond the project leader;
5. Engage underserved communities (if possible) in Kyrgyzstan or students’ home communities;
6. Clearly describe the methodology/ activities;
7. Provide a social media plan for raising awareness of program activities and outcome (if applicable);
8. Identify the cities/districts in which activities will take place;
9. Identify specific outcomes to be achieved by the end of the project.
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| **Potential ACEP Thematic Areas include but are not limited to:** |
| **1. Education (all ages preschool to senior citizens)*** English Language or other Language Instruction;
* Language and Thinking Practices to Engage Communities;
* Using Debate for Community Development and Public Contestation;
* Model United Nations as a Community Tool;
* Creating Community Discussion Spaces/Freedom of Expression;
* Youth Mentorship for Change;
* Tutoring/Summer camps and/or School Programs;

**2. Environment and Sustainability*** Science Outreach and Citizen Action;
* Creating Awareness Campaigns;
* Addressing Inequality and the Environmental Impacts;
* Food Justice;
* Recycling;

**3. Art as Social Action*** Art Therapy/Expressive Arts Projects;
* Theater/Expressive Arts/Improvisation/Clowning;
* Summer Programs for Disadvantaged Youth;
* Making Art for Impact (race monologues, film festivals);

**4. Media for Change*** Radio;
* Video;
* Social Media.

**5. Social Entrepreneurship.** |
| **Funding Information** |
| Long-term projects – up to $1000 per project;One- off projects – up to $200 per project. |
| **Funding Restrictions** |
| Activities that are not typically funded include, but are not limited to: 1. Charity projects;
2. Construction;
3. On-campus projects;
4. Projects supporting a certain political party or specific religious activities;
5. Purchase of equipment;
6. Research works;
7. Startups;
8. Salaries/ honorariums; airfare – for international projects.
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| **Submission Info** |
| The following documents are required for submission:1. Attachment 1\_ ACEP Project Leader Info;
2. Attachment 2\_ ACEP Application for Award
3. Attachment 3\_ACEP Budget Form (in U.S. Dollars – for international projects, in soms- for projects in Kyrgyzstan).

Proposals that do not meet application requirements will not be considered for review. The above-listed forms must be sent electronically to cce@auca.kg with *Subject Line: Project Name for ACEP funding (E.g. Village Girl for ACEP Funding).* |
| **Selection Process** |
| ACEP Selection Committee comprised of AUCA faculty and staff members approves projects for funding. The committee reserves the right to award less or more than the funds requested: (1) in the absence of worthy applications, or (2) under such other circumstances as it may deem to be in the interest of the Program.ACEP Selection Committee selects projects for funding based on criteria outlined below. |
| **Criteria** |
| Quality and feasibility of the project idea |
| Project planning/ability to achieve objectives  |
| Budget |
| Monitoring & Evaluation |
| Sustainability |
| **Results** |
| **Results of applications submitted by October 10h, 2021 will be announced on October 25th, 2023.** |
| **Reporting** |
| In case requested project funding is approved for implementation, students are expected to attend a Project Leader training, schedule check-ins with ACEP Coordinator, and submit a final report (narrative and financial) within 10 days after the project completion.  |
| **Next Application Period** |
| Next application period for Spring 2024 will be announced in January, 2024.  |