



## The 2018-2019 REA Student Project Grant Program

The Rice Engineering Alumni (REA) has established a grant program to support **outstanding student-led engineering initiatives** at Rice. The focus of this program is to provide financial support to projects, activities, and initiatives which are not directly related to class work. **Both undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to apply** to the program. **Grant funding must be used to support a specific activity** and may not be used to supplement a general operating fund for an organization or group. Student-led projects/activities/initiatives will be selected for funding based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated need for financial support
- Educational impact for involved students
- Societal impact of proposed project / activity
- Feasibility of project / activity

The minimum grant amount is \$500, and the maximum grant amount is \$2,500. The maximum grant amount can be increased to \$5,000 under special circumstances. Grant winners will be required to provide a follow up report and / or a 10-minute presentation at an REA event, such as at the Winter Social or at the REA Homecoming event, upon completion of the project. In addition, grant winners will be recognized at the annual REA Student Awards Picnic in April.

### Yearly Schedule for Grant Program

The Fall Grant Cycle will support projects which will be started, completed, or have major activities during the second half of the school year (December through April). The Spring Grant Cycle will support projects which will be started, completed or have major activities during the summer and first half of the school year (April through November). Expedited funding, ahead of the established grant award date, can be provided at the discretion of the REA to accommodate time-sensitive funding requests.

#### **2018 Fall Grant Cycle Schedule:**

- November 16, 2018 - Applications due via e-mail by 5 pm ([reascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:reascholarships@gmail.com))
- January 2019 – REA to announce Grant Winners

#### **2019 Spring Grant Cycle Schedule:**

- March 8, 2019 – Applications due via e-mail by 5 pm ([reascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:reascholarships@gmail.com))
- April 2019 – REA to announce Grant Winners

## **Application Process**

Applications are to be delivered by email to the REA Grants and Awards Chair ([reascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:reascholarships@gmail.com)) prior to the announced application deadline. Applications shall be in the form of an MS Word document. The application is limited to **five pages, single spaced, Times New Roman or Arial 12 point fonts, with standard 1 inch margins**. The application must include the following information:

- Name and description of student group applying for funding support
- Description of project / activity under consideration for funding support
- Detailed cost estimate for project / activity including description of funds raised to date, funds requested from the REA, and plans for raising any additional funds needed
- Should expedited funding be required, please state clearly the urgency of the request and the necessary schedule for receiving funds.
- Assessment of educational impact to Rice students involved
- Assessment of societal impact of proposed project / activity
- Discussion or major challenges associated with the proposed project / activity and the group's plan to overcome these challenges
- 200-300 word summary of why the REA should support this activity
- Names, majors, and years of all students involved in the project
- Contact Information (email, phone) for student leaders and faculty sponsor (or equivalent authority figure providing guidance / support for the activity)

## **Grant Selection & Award Process**

The REA Student Awards Committee shall select award winners based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated need for financial support (25%)
- Educational impact for involved students (25%)
- Societal impact of proposed project (20%)
- Feasibility of Project (30%)

Should a funded project be cancelled or not materialize as expected after receiving the grant, all grant monies must be returned to the REA.

## **Questions?**

Questions regarding the REA Student Project Grant Program should be directed to:

- REA Grants and Awards Chair, Chris Powers ([reascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:reascholarships@gmail.com))
- REA Grants and Awards Co-Chair, Vivas Kumar ([vivaswath.kumar1992@gmail.com](mailto:vivaswath.kumar1992@gmail.com))