

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Sr. Phyllis Plantenberg Endowed Fund for Student and Faculty Research Application due Jan 23 (by midnight)

Funding from the endowment is used to provide competitive grants in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) professional and academic development for Outdoor U students, as well as to provide resources in support of student and faculty research in the Abbey Arboretum.

[ONLINE APPLICATION](#)

Eligibility

- Active Outdoor U student employees and PRP facilitators during the 2021-22 academic year and 2021 summer employment.
- Individuals are eligible to receive up to one grant per fiscal year (July 1-June 30)

Application Requirements

- Individual grant funds may range from \$20-\$500
- Grant funds must be spent within the granting period (July 1-June 30)
- STEM professional development opportunities can vary broadly and do not need to correlate directly with your current job description at Outdoor U.
- Grant recipients will work with a direct supervisor to develop a plan to share the benefits of their development with coworkers.
- Grant recipients will draft a thank-you letter to the donor outlining the value of the opportunity the grant has provided for current and/or future professional and personal development, to be received by Outdoor U staff no later than June 30.

Applications for funding are due no later than October 15, 2021. If funds remain after the first round of applications, additional grants will be approved on a rolling basis.

Previous Grants Funded

- Wilderness First Aid Training
- North American Association of Environmental Education conference
- The Wolf: Ecology, Behavior and Conservation at Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center
- American Camp Association's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion seven-course package
- Books on a variety of relevant topics for personal/professional development

About the Endowment

In 2020, an anonymous donor established this endowment in honor of [Sr. Phyllis \(Dunstan\) Plantenberg](#) of Saint Benedict's Monastery. Sr. Phyllis taught biology at CSB/SJU for 34 years, founded Common Ground Garden as a CSA (community supported agriculture) enterprise, and is a cofounder of the St. Joseph Farmer's Market. Her passion for the natural world has made her [an inspiring and cherished teacher, colleague, and friend](#) to many in the CSB/SJU/OSB community and beyond.