

Faith or Community

Service Grant

University of Indianapolis



At the University of Indianapolis, we believe education involves the intellect, the character, and the awareness of the individual of his or her privileges and responsibilities in history and to the society in which we live. The commitment to “make a difference for good” (to serve), the religious impulse, and a fine education combine to assist an individual to build a life of fulfillment and satisfaction.

The University of Indianapolis Faith or Community Service Grant is designed to acknowledge the importance of these attributes and to attract to the University students who share such concerns. An award of \$2,500 per academic year is available for entering freshmen and new transfer students who are full-time undergraduate students and who have demonstrated a commitment to service through active participation in religious and/or community service activities. The latter is preferably coupled with a strong religious affiliation.

Definition of Service

- Service is defined as an activity that addresses a community need by contributing in some tangible or measurable way to meeting that need.
- The service experience must be connected to a reputable nonprofit institution and be acknowledged by that institution (i.e., religious organization, community service organization, school, etc.).
- The activity must have official, responsible, recognized supervision.
- No service experience is applicable if any form of pay has been received for it.

Eligibility Criteria

Initial eligibility will be judged on the following criteria.

- Admissible as a full-time undergraduate student (seeking first undergraduate degree).
- Evidence of service as indicated by leadership in community service activities and/or volunteerism in social agencies. (A minimum of thirty hours of service is required.)

or:

- Active membership in a mainline religious organization as verified by an official representative.

Students must verify their level of engagement in various service or religious activities and their active participation in the projects or work of the organization(s).

Eligibility for the Faith or Community Service Grant is limited to four years (eight semesters) of undergraduate study (regardless of whether or not the award is used) based upon satisfactory academic performance as evidenced by a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or greater and the successful completion of at least 20 credit hours per year.

The Faith or Community Service Grant recipient must also continue to enroll as a full-time undergraduate student to be eligible for renewal.

Selection Procedure

A University committee will select the students to receive the Faith or Community Service Grant. The committee will review the applications of each student and make the award decision. Students who complete the application by February 15 will receive maximum consideration for these awards.

Coordination With Other University of Indianapolis Grants & Scholarships

Should the student be eligible for other types of academic scholarship from the University (such as Presidential, Dean’s, Alumni Scholarship, the Senator Richard Lugar Academic Recognition Award) in addition to the Faith or Community Service Grant, the highest award will take precedence. Other University awards such as Athletic, Music, Speech, Art, Theatre, or Discovery Award, as well as need-based University Grants and Scholarships, etc., may be awarded in addition to the Faith or Community Service Grant. However, **the combined total of these awards may not exceed a maximum amount determined by the University on an annual basis. The Faith or Community Service Grant will not be awarded in combination with either the United Methodist Award or the Horizon Grant.**

Application Procedure

To apply for the Faith or Community Service Grant, the student must submit the following documents. Priority is given to students who complete the Faith or Community Service Grant Application by February 15.

1. Application for undergraduate admission
2. *Verification of Faith or Community Service form* (attached) completed by service organization supervisor or official representative of religious organization
3. Mail *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) by March 1 to ensure it is received by the federal government on or before March 10.

- Service is defined as any activity that addresses a community need by contributing in some tangible or measurable way to meeting that need and for which financial compensation is not received.
- The service experience must be connected to and verified by a reputable nonprofit institution (religious organization, community service organization, school, etc.).

Section A (to be completed by student)

Student's Name: _____ Social Security # (optional): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Name of Service Organization or Name of Religious Organization (i.e., Church, Synagogue) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Section B (to be completed by service organization supervisor or official representative of religious organization)

Description of services student provided for your service or religious organization. _____

1. Please state the length of time this student has been an active member of, or active in service to, your service or religious organization: _____

2. Please rate the activity level of the student:

- Very Active Moderately Active Minimally Active Inactive

3. If known, please list the approximate number of hours of the student's non-paid involvement (annually) in your service or religious organization since he/she became an *active participant*: _____

4. Please list any additional comments and/or recommendations that would help the selection committee: _____

5. Please indicate the specific nature of the work or projects in which the student was involved as well as any leadership that the student demonstrated.

Name of Organization Official: _____

Phone Number: _____ Signature: _____

Section C (to be completed by official representative of religious organization)

I certify that the student named on this form is currently an official member in good standing of the religious organization indicated above.

Signature: _____