

Schoenl Family Undergraduate Grants for Dire Needs Overseas

The purpose of the Schoenl Family Undergraduate Grants for Dire Needs Overseas is to identify and fund the most outstanding projects, proposed by members of the MSU Honors College, which will serve dire human needs in countries other than the U.S. The grants must be used within a 12-month period to make an impact that will help alleviate dire human needs. The amount awarded depends on available funds and project scope. Typical grant funding is \$1,200 for a Level I award and \$1,800 for a Level II award.¹

Selection Criteria

1. The award recipient must be a member, in good standing, of the MSU Honors College.
2. The award winning project will identify and address dire human needs in countries other than the U.S. Examples of dire needs include, but are not limited to clean water, food, shelter, medical care and other commensurate needs. International travel is not a requirement of the grant.

Level I Award: Proposed projects should focus on program support, service or creative innovations. Projects might address public policy, organizational issues, programmatic imperatives or fundraising strategies.

*Level II Award:*² Proposed projects should focus on making a real difference in the lives of people; and must actually implement a model of addressing a dire human need in at least two different locations. Research projects are not eligible for this award.

3. The award recipient will have demonstrated exceptional character, leadership and interest in improving the lives of others, particularly in international contexts. A commitment to community service and/or using scholarship to improve human conditions should be evident.

Application Procedure

There is no application form. Each application should include the items noted below.

- A cover page with the project title and location(s), award type (Level I or II, not both), word count, student's name, address, telephone number, and MSU email address.
- An essay written by the student that includes an introduction, implementation strategy, projected results, discussion and project significance. [Level I: 1,000 word limit, Level II: 2,500 word limit]
- A resume, project abstract, budget and bibliography should be attached as appendices.
- One letter of nomination from a Michigan State University faculty member who will supervise the project. Although not required, up to two additional letters of support can be submitted as well.

The student essay, faculty nomination letter and any supporting materials should address: a) how the proposed project can help improve the dire conditions of people outside of the U.S.; b) the potential for the student to carry out the proposed project; and c) the feasibility of the project being completed in 12 months.

Applications should be submitted to the Dean of the Honors College, 105 Eustace-Cole Hall by **February 15th**. Applications will be reviewed by a committee designated by the Dean of the Honors College and the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies. The recipient of the Schoenl Family Grant will be announced at the annual University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF) held in April.

Contact the Honors College (hcawards@msu.edu, 355-2326) or Dr. Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore (jacks174@msu.edu) with questions.

¹ Receipt of this grant may change the composition of a student's financial aid package.

² Previous recipients of a Level I award are eligible and encouraged to apply for a Level II award. Applicants are not required to have received a Level I award in the past.