Columbia Law School

ANTI-RACISM GRANTMAKING PROGRAM (ARGP)
FALL 2021

Columbia Law School is pleased to continue to offer the Columbia Law School Anti-Racism Grantmaking Program (ARGP) and to invite applications for the 2021-22 academic year.

The ARGP is established in recognition of the continuing need to combat structural racism in our society and of the unique role that law and legal institutions can play in accelerating this change. The goal of the ARGP is to provide both financial and non-financial assistance to members of the Law School community for projects that will help dismantle racially subordinating policies, structures, or systems or otherwise help promote racial equity and inclusion.

Terms of the grants. Up to five grants will be awarded for the 2021-22 academic year. Grants will be awarded for 4-12 month terms. Total project budgets may range in size from a few thousand dollars up to $15,000. Grantees may use their awards to pay for student stipends, project expenses, or both. Grantees will also be given opportunities to engage with the Law School community about their work and its impact.

Eligibility. Grants are available to support projects conducted by current Columbia Law School students, faculty, and staff. Applications may be submitted by individuals, groups of individuals, or CLS organizations. Strong preference will be given to applications that include student participation and provide mentorship to, or capacity-building opportunities for, students. Selection committee members are not eligible to apply and must recuse themselves in cases involving projects with which they are personally associated.

Proposal requirements. Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to combating racial injustice and present a proposal that clearly states the goal(s), projected milestones, intended deliverable(s), and budget for the project. Applicants must also demonstrate that grants will support new racial justice work, although this work may be developed as part of a preexisting program. Absent good cause, grants may not be used for general operating expenses for pre-existing programs.

Student stipends. Applicants may apply for funding to cover stipends for students, in addition to other costs of implementing their projects. Stipends may be up to $3,000 per student, and no more than 3 students may receive a stipend for one project. (Total stipend payments may not exceed $9,000 within a single project.) Project expenses will be funded separately. A student

may not receive both course credit or research assistant credit and stipend support simultaneously for the same project work.

Support. In addition to (a) student stipends and (b) reasonable expenses and costs, other available ARGP support can include: (c) assistance in connecting with scholars, advocates, administrators, or racial justice experts to help advise on the project; (d) periodic check-ins for assistance from the grant administrator; (e) community- building opportunities with other grantees; and (f) opportunities to educate the Columbia community about the project.

Additional requirements: Grantees will be required to submit a brief progress report at the midpoint of their grant and a final report at the conclusion of the project.

Deadline. Applications will be due by January 28, 2022. Please submit the application and supporting documents as one PDF to argp@law.columbia.edu.

Selection. A committee consisting of Law School faculty, administrators, and others will select the ARGP grantees. Successful applications will be announced by the end of February 2022. Successful applicants should be prepared to start their projects upon announcement of awards in February 2022; funds will be disbursed no later than four weeks following the announcement.

For questions, please contact Robert Ford, Executive Director of Student Services, Community Engagement, and Equity (rf2659@columbia.edu).

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ADDITIONAL BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Project Budgets

Total project budgets may not exceed $15,000 (maximum award). Project budgets may consist of two categories of expense: (a) labor and (b) non-labor expenses.

Labor Expense Categories

Student Stipends:
Applicants may include stipends for Columbia Law School students as part of a total project budget. Stipends may not exceed $3,000 per student. No more than three students may receive stipends on a single project. Students receiving stipends may not receive any other form of compensation for their effort in addition to the stipend (e.g., tuition credit or RA funding). Faculty, researchers, staff and third parties are not eligible to receive stipends.

All stipends are considered taxable income and will be issued by the Business Office. These stipends are not financial aid and will not impact the student account. Stipends for domestic students are not taxed at source, but are subject to tax reporting. International students may have up to 14% withheld at source dependent on tax treaties with their home country. No stipends will be grossed-up for tax purposes.

Research Assistants:
Columbia University students can be hired as research assistants (RAs) and will be paid at the Columbia Law School RA rate of $17.00/hr for the Spring 2021 semester. RAs must be supervised by a faculty member. Student RAs are permitted to work a maximum of 20 hours per week during the school year. No more than five RAs may be hired on any single project. Maximum budget allotment for RAs may not exceed $6,000. RA income is taxable income and subject to tax withholding.

Consultants:
Consultants may be used to fulfill project goals. No verbal or written offer for consulting services may be made by the grantee. All consultants must first be qualified as approved vendors of the University. Consultants are subject to Columbia University insurance and purchasing requirements, and consulting agreements are subject to review and approval by the Associate Dean for Finance, Strategy and Operations at the Law School and by the University. For inquiries regarding consulting services, please contact purchasing@law.columbia.edu.

Non-Labor Expense Categories

Expenses in this category include (but are not limited to): supplies, minor equipment, research materials, travel, food, marketing and advertising, postage. All non-labor expense purchases are subject to the University's purchasing guidelines. Alcohol is not allowable.

Additional Funding

Applicants will be asked to disclose any additional funding they anticipate receiving to support their project. External funding may not be used to fund labor expenses unless the funding is received by the Law School. External funding may be used to supplement purchases of non-labor expense categories. Questions regarding use of external funding should be directed to the Associate Dean for Finance, Strategy and Operations at the Law School.

ARGP Application 2021-2022

General information

Note: If you are applying as a group, please include this information for the group leader; if you are applying as an organization, please include this information for the organization's main contact person.

Project Title: _____

Applicant Name: _____ UNI:_____
Preferred email address: _____ Pronouns _____
Preferred phone number: _____

Affiliation with Columbia Law School:
__ JD student   __ LLM student
     Class year: _____   _____

__ Faculty
     Title: _____
__ Staff
     Title: _____
__ Other
     Please describe: _____

Additional information for applications submitted by groups. (Please try to limit responses to the space provided.)
- Please identify the names of the group members and their affiliations:
  _____
  _____
  _____
  _____

- Please describe the current connection or relationship, if any, between group members:
  _____
  _____
  _____
  _____

- Please describe why this project is submitted by a group and identify the role that each group member will play in project implementation:
  _____
  _____

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- If the group has student members, please indicate any opportunities for student mentorship, or opportunities for students to engage in capacity-building or other benefits, while implementing this project:

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Project description
- Goal of Project (2 pages max): In a separate attachment, please describe the issue or problem you hope to address, explain why this work is needed (including whether it is already being done and, if so, why you propose this project), and how your project will promote racial justice or other anti-racist ends.

- Project timeline and milestones: Please describe the timeframe you propose for this project, including the grant term. Grants can be awarded for 4-12 month terms. (You can break the project up into phases with smaller timeframes if you wish.) Within the timeframe, please also identify key steps and proposed milestones. You may attach additional pages if needed.

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- Project deliverables: Please identify specific deliverables, and how your project will accomplish these deliverables.

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- Project challenges: What potential challenges do you foresee, if any? Will the COVID-19 pandemic potentially disrupt this project?

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- Sustainability: How will these results be sustainable (if applicable) after the conclusion of the project?

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Project budget
- Budget: In a separate attachment, please provide a budget, including expense line items, for this project.

- Funding:
  ___ I am applying for a student stipend
  Please describe how the stipend(s) would be used and the proposed amount(s). Please also indicate if any applicants are already receiving course credit or research assistant credit for any project work:

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  ___ I am applying for funds for project expenses
  Please describe anticipated expenses and how ARGP funds would be used for expenses:

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  ___ I have received funding from other sources for this project

Please describe the funding amount, source of the funding, and how it is being used:

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Non-monetary support
Please indicate what type of additional support from the ARGP you would like to apply for, and provide a description as to why this would be beneficial:

__ Assistance in connecting with scholars, advocates, administrators, or racial justice experts to help advise on the project

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__Periodic check-ins for assistance from the grant administrator

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__Community building opportunities with other grantees

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__Opportunities to educate the Columbia community about your project

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Reporting requirements

Grant recipients are expected to submit two short (1 page max) written reports: (1) a midpoint progress report and (2) a final report at the conclusion of the project. Do you have any concerns about submitting these reports?

__ No, I do not have any concerns about submitting these reports

__ Yes, I have concerns about submitting these reports, for the following reasons:

_____
_____
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Resume

Please provide resumes for all project applicants

Short-answer questions (1 paragraph max)

- Why should we fund this project?

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- (Optional) How would this project benefit Columbia Law School, Columbia Law students, or the surrounding community?

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- How has your lived experience shaped the way you think about the most pressing racial justice issues of our time?

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- Is there anything else you would like the Selection Committee to know about you or this project?

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