



2018 MERIDIAN AWARD APPLICATION PACKET

Meridian Awards are made possible through gifts from members of the Meridian Society. The purpose of these gifts is to support projects carried out by an SIUE department in conjunction with a community organization to benefit the southwestern Illinois metropolitan community and, at times, communities beyond our region.

The maximum funding for an individual Meridian Award is \$5,000, however, the average award in recent years has been about \$2,000 so most projects receive partial rather than full funding.

The Awards Committee seeks new projects each year that impact a significant number of people through the innovative use of funds to change or improve life quality. Awards are not normally given to prior projects. Projects can be related to the sciences, arts, business, engineering, education, health, athletics or other but must always be carried out through an established partnership between an SIUE department and a community organization. The partnership requires that Meridian Award funds are deposited in the SIUE partner's department account.

2018 Meridian Awards Timeline

November 2017	Begin accepting applications for 2018 award
February 1, 2018	Award applications due
February - March 2018	Committee reviews applications
March 2018	Board votes on recommendations by Awards Committee
April 19, 2018	Accept Meridian Award at Meridian Society Awards Banquet scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2018, 4-6 p.m. location TBD.



2018 Meridian Society Award Application

Application Deadline: Thursday, February 1, 2018, 5 p.m.

(Please complete the application in Arial or Times New Roman type style in 12 pt font size)

Applicant Name

(Name of SIUE Department or Organization)

Address (campus box) Acct. Number

Primary Contact Person

(Signature)

(Phone)

(Title/office)

(E-mail)

Partnership Organization

Please list the community organization which will directly benefit from this Award.

Partnership Organization Contact

(Name)

(Phone)

(E-mail)

Name of Project/Program

Date of Project/Program

Amount Requested

Academic Department or Division Authorization

- ☐ I understand this proposal will not be used to supplant a current budgeted program.
- ☐ I understand that this proposal will not be used for department budget obligations including equipment and salaries.

Signature(s) of Authorization

Department Chair, Dean or Appropriate Vice Chancellor

E-mail:

Department Chair, Dean or Appropriate Vice Chancellor

Meridian Award Applicant Agreement:

If awarded, I agree to --

- Submit an end of project summary by June 1, 2019. Include; photos, a description of expended funds and dates of activities and progress towards meeting objectives.
- By request, the project period may be extended 3 months to September 1, 2019.
- Accept Meridian Award at Meridian Society Awards Breakfast scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 8 a.m. Birger Hall.

Signature

Date

Application Checklist

Please provide the following information on additional sheets attached to Page 1 of this packet. All information is required; incomplete applications will not be considered.

Submit all information by 5 p.m. on February 1, 2018 to:

Electronic submissions (*electronic submissions are preferred*):
meridiansociety@siue.edu

Mail submissions:

Meridian Awards
c/o Meridian Society at SIUE Foundation
Campus Box 1082
Edwardsville, IL 62026-1082

☐ **Cover Sheet**

The cover sheet should include: title of the project, organization submitting proposal, partnership organization, date(s) when the project will take place and primary contact name.

☐ **Abstract**

The abstract is a brief, comprehensive summary of the proposal content in plain language -- approximately 150 words in length. Evaluators will receive their first impression from this abstract.

☐ **Proposal Narrative and Community Organization(s) Information** (800 words or less)

The proposal narrative should include:

- introduction / background;
- description of the project partnership;
- project impact on the community, including how many people it will serve;
- expected results of the project, including long term benefits of the project;
- ways the outcome of this project will be measured;
- unique characteristics of the project, making it different from other projects; and how the project will be sustained in future years as Meridian grants are one-year awards; and
- project's impact on national recognition.

☐ **Proposed Itemized Budget & Timeline** (indicate other sources of support)

Provide an itemized budget for your project, including non-Meridian sources. Identify the item(s) that are top priority for funding in the event that your project is chosen for partial funding. Also, provide a project timeline that begins no later than May 31, 2018 and is completed by June 1, 2019.

☐ **Letters of Support**

Two letters of support are required, one of which must come from the partnership organization.

☐ **Presentation of Proposal to the Meridian Award Evaluators**

Be prepared, if invited to do so, to present a 7-10-minute synopsis of your proposal including a question and answer opportunity. Some applicants will be asked to present in-person clarification of application issues. If you are not asked to present to the evaluators, your application will continue under consideration until final selections are made.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the characteristics of previous projects that received Meridian Award funding?

A: Winning projects made wise use of award funds, impacted a large number of people, effected significant and long-lasting change, and brought recognition to SIUE.

Q: What are some of the primary reasons the Awards Committee did not approve funding for projects?

A: Projects have been turned down when –

- the impact of the project was too narrow;
- the bulk of funds requested was for travel expense, honoraria, or equipment;
- it was not clear how the project could be sustained;
- the identical project was previously funded with a Meridian Grant*;
- the proposal was incomplete or poorly written.

*Note: A previous Meridian awardee may apply for funding of a new project or a major new facet of a previously funded project. The Committee is interested in stimulating new projects rather than sustaining previously funded projects.

Q: Do Meridian Awards fund salaries for graduate assistants, student workers, staff or faculty members?

A: Normally, SIUE salaries or student wages cannot be supported by a Meridian Award but some unique situations have been considered. Meridian Awards are never given for the support of a faculty member's academic research project.

Q: If my project is currently receiving funding through my unit or organization, may I request funding for the same project?

A: No, Meridian Award dollars cannot replace budgeted funds for existing programs. If a program was previously funded by the University but is no longer funded, it remains ineligible for a Meridian Award.

Q: Can a Meridian Award fund scholarships or endowments?

A: Requests to fund scholarships or endowments for current SIUE students normally will not be considered.