



PUBLIC POLICY PROJECTS FOR FACULTY



How do I find more information?

- Visit the PPP website for more details and links to applications: bgsu.edu/publicpolicyprojects
- Contact Dr. Cordula Mora, Director of the BGSU Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (CURS), cmora@bgsu.edu or (419) 372-3873
- Contact Dr. Justin Rex, Chair of the PPP Committee and Assistant Professor of Political Science, jmrex@bgsu.edu or (419) 372-2107



PUBLIC POLICY PROJECTS



What are Public Policy Projects?

Public Policy Projects (PPPs) are research experiences that engage undergraduate students (individuals or groups) in applied community based research focused on the critical examination of a current public policy issue or problem in the community.

For example, potential projects could research the following:

- Policy options to improve water quality in Lake Erie
- Alternative public health initiatives to address the opioid epidemic
- Policies to sustain or improve funding for the arts
- Policies that encourage sustainable construction and architectural design
- Policy solutions to protect citizens' privacy on the internet
- Educational funding models to improve access to high quality education from preschool through college
- Policies that encourage corporate social responsibility

Is there funding available?

PPPs may be completed in four different formats, each with different funding options:

- Faculty supervised independent study during fall or spring semester (Student Mini Grant, \$500 maximum for costs like travel, supplies, report dissemination)
- Faculty-led course PPP (Faculty Course Grant, \$2,500 maximum to cover costs like travel, workshops, guest speakers)
- Faculty supervised summer research project (Student Stipend \$2,500 maximum, and \$500-\$2,500 in faculty professional development funds depending on the number of projects supervised)
- Faculty supervised winter session research project (Student Stipend \$500 maximum, and \$250-\$750 in faculty professional development funds depending on the number of projects supervised)

What are the expectations for students?

Undergraduate students at any level may participate in PPPs. PPPs may be completed by individuals or groups of students working together. Below is a list of typical expectations for the completion of a PPP:

- Identify and research a public problem
- Utilize community based research methods
- Identify possible solutions to public problems and discuss their viability
- Recommend a solution and a plan for its implementation
- Discuss the challenges to implementing the solution
- Complete a public engagement and public dissemination component
- Provide a means for community feedback and reflection
- Give a poster or oral presentation at the BGSU Undergraduate Symposium for Research and Scholarship

What are the guidelines for faculty?

- Faculty members may integrate a Public Policy Project into any undergraduate class in any discipline. Funds are available for class activities that support student engagement with, understanding of, and /or the ability to successfully complete research on a public policy issue.
- Course based projects may involve individual projects, small group projects, or a project that all class members are involved with.
- Topics may be generated by students, defined by the faculty members, or linked to a project identified by a community partner or organization.
- Funding will be prioritized for projects that have relevance to regional communities/organizations and where there is a strong partnership with community partners.
- For faculty whose own research has a public policy focus the Student Policy Scholars Program can provide additional support through students engaged in an intensive research experience with a faculty mentor and/or a research experience with a community organization supervised by a faculty mentor.