



Funding Request Form FY2024

Department should complete one form for each individual request

Department:

Memorial Student Center

Program, Service or Operation Requested:

Student Worker Funding Replacement

General Description:

The MSC is requesting for student employee funding to be brought back to the FY 2020 funding level. During the FY 21 budget cut, the Memorial Student Center reduced student employee funding across the board by 36%. This totaled \$57,000 per fiscal year. To compensate for this cut, we instituted a hiring freeze for all current student positions, limited our hours of operation and redirected student workers and their funding from the Box Office to other operational areas. We anticipate that with the cessation, or control of the COVID pandemic, demand for our services will return to pre-COVID levels in all areas of operation. We were fortunate to receive one-time funding for this need from last year’s SAFAB board, which has allowed us to fill lost student worker hours for the ’21-’22 school year, but we are asking that our total funding for student employment be permanently reestablished for FY 23. This provision would enable the MSC to return to normal service and operations for our students as well as provide a tangible income source to many of our students who are in financial need. In addition to bring our student employment funding back to FY 2020 levels, the MSC has also accepted the necessity of raising starting student worker wages to \$9.00/hr in order to compete with other departments and colleges for quality workers. This raise constitutes a 13% (\$24,700) increase in our student employment costs. Added with the \$57,000 brings our total request for support of MSC student workers to \$81,700.

Request Type:

Full Increase One-Time Partial/Matching

Type of Funds Requested:

UAF Other

General Questions

How does this address an important need and/or positively impact students?

It gives students an opportunity for employment and allows the Memorial Student Center to permanently return to pre-COVID hours of operation to better serve students and guests.

What department/Division strategic plan item does this support?

This would invest in division staff and enhance the Division’s Influence on the profession by providing much needed assistance to our staff. The income provided would also contribute to the students’ success, including retention/persistence and timely graduation.

Please provide data, evidence, and/or input (student faculty, staff, other) you gathered to help you determine the need for additional resources.

The MSC recognized the need for immediate budget restrictions and reacted by prioritizing and reducing costs where possible during our prior challenges in order to maintain programming. That said, our student workers provide an invaluable resource and staff have provided clear input that continued service at the level provided in the past is not possible with the loss of a significant portion of our student worker pool.

What actions have you implemented or discontinued internally to address the identified need?

As stated earlier, all staff had prioritized tasks normally handled by student workers and we had cut back service where possible. While the one-time funding for this year allowed us to begin to return to normal programming levels and operational hours during the current budget year, this cannot be sustained unless the funding is made permanent and adjusted for inflation. (Students are not willing to work for minimum wage and auxiliaries are paying over minimum wage.)

If funding is granted, what metrics will you use to evaluate success of this program/service/operation?

Staff, students, and the general public have routinely provided feedback as to the efficiency of our operations. If permanent funding is granted, we will be able to continue to provide the quality service (e.g. lost and found) that our constituents have benefited from in the past. We will continue to monitor and evaluate student worker coverage to maximize accessibility to our facilities and programming.

Have other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, reserves, etc.) been considered? Please explain.

During this past year, we had already implemented a shifting of available student worker resources. While reserves are being tapped for current fiscal year ‘23 funding, in light of current budget demands across the board, permanent funding is needed.

Total Estimated Cost

Funding Description	Amount
Student Worker Funding Replacement	\$81,700
<i>Less Estimated Partial/Matching Funds (if Applicable)</i>	
TOTAL INCREASE REQUESTED	\$81,700

