

**Request for Proposals:  
Small Grants to Encourage Use of the Meyer's Point Environmental Field Station**

**Background and Rationale**

WSU's Meyer's Point Environmental Field Station (MPEFS), located just outside of Olympia, WA (<https://cas.wsu.edu/meyers-point/>), is poised to begin an era of growth and expansion that could enable it to become a leading environmental research, education and outreach center for the Puget Sound Area, and by extension, the state of Washington and the nation. A recent planning grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Field Station and Marine Laboratories (FSML) program has helped jump-start this process. In the months and years ahead, additional proposals to further develop MPEFS will be submitted to various federal and state funding agencies, and private donors and philanthropic foundations. Demonstrating significant usage of MPEFS by WSU faculty and students will aid in the success of these proposals.

In keeping with the Meyer family bequest to "promote environmental education, research, and the arts," the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is continuing a small grants program to promote greater usage of MPEFS for either teaching, research, or creative activities on site. All WSU faculty members, irrespective of academic unit or location, are eligible to apply.

**Small Grants Program**

*Individual Grants.* Research grants of up to \$10,000 per year can support part-time graduate or undergraduate assistants, travel, materials and supplies, or other incidental research costs. Teaching grants of \$3,000 or less per year could cover student travel (e.g., buses or vans), curricular supplies, or other incidental teaching costs. Multi-year grants are encouraged. In all cases the research, creative, or teaching activities must occur on site at MPEFS.

*Proposal Submission and Selection Process.* Brief proposals (2 pages maximum) should consist of the following sections: Title; Investigators; Introduction and Background; Goals and Objectives; Proposed Activities on Site at MPEFS; Budget; Sustainability and Leverage for future funding. Proposals for summer through autumn 2024 activities are due January 26, 2024. Proposals should be submitted electronically to [sbollens@wsu.edu](mailto:sbollens@wsu.edu). Proposals will be evaluated by the MPEFS Steering Committee (see criteria below), which will make funding recommendations to the Director of MPEFS and the CAS Associate Dean of Research, who will make final funding decisions.

*Evaluation Criteria.* The following five criteria will be considered.

1. Quality and likely impact of proposed research or teaching activities
2. Appropriateness of proposed budget
3. Potential for sustaining efforts beyond the grant period
4. Ability to leverage existing extramural support
5. Potential to secure new extramural support

*Questions?* Please contact Dr. Steve Bollens, Director of Meyer's Point Environmental Field Station, College of Arts and Sciences, at [sbollens@wsu.edu](mailto:sbollens@wsu.edu) or 360-608-6893.