



ECSU Student Center and Student Activities Office *Co-curricular education for student organizational leadership*

→ FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ←

All organizations need money. Money is needed to publicize meetings, send a mailing, go to conferences, or host educational or social events. Money can be a cornerstone of an organization's stability.

Organization cash flow should always be a planned program! Planning ahead for all expenses will ensure that you do not end up in debt. Once you know what your expenses will be, then plan your income. Be realistic; you can only spend what you have. Also, a well-planned fund raising program has a better chance for success.

Following are ways for your organization to raise money. In addition to these, there are also financial sources available for organizations if your program meets the requirements. Remember that combination of sources is the most profitable way to raise money.

- \$ Collect dues from your members. Be sure to make this a reasonable amount. Also, let your members have input in what the dues will be used for; and, in the end, make sure they know what they will be used for.
- \$ Include in your income projection calculations any money left in your treasury from the previous year. Plan a variety of fund raisers throughout the year.
- \$ Set up a co-sponsorship or joint venture agreement if you have a program or advertising campaign that could use assistance. This is especially valuable if your program will benefit a large portion of the ECSU population. Another student organization, CAB, or a local business may be willing to share in the expenses of your program if it is mutually beneficial.
- \$ The Student Government Association allocates Student Activity Fee money every spring for the following year. If you are interested in applying for funds, be sure to watch the bulletin boards in February for application notices. Student Activity Fee money is awarded to groups who offer programs benefiting the entire ECSU community.
- \$ The Student Government Association also allocates BAM Weekend Programming Grants. This fund is used to stimulate campus-wide programs which enhance the educational, cultural, and social environment of Eastern Connecticut State University. Grants are awarded for such things as speakers. Programs and activities proposed must potentially benefit all ECSU students. Applications for BAM Weekend Programming Grants are in the SGA Office. Completed forms should be returned to the BAM at least two weeks prior to your event.
- \$ The Speakers Committee offers partial funding for speakers programs. If you would like to bring a speaker to campus, contact the Student Activities Office for information on applying for Speaker Committee funds.

- \$ Plan fund raisers throughout the entire academic year. A fund raiser should be a planned program, rather than a hasty way to make some quick money. Planning will make your fund raiser much more successful and profitable.
- \$ Taking goods on consignment is also a way to generate revenue without an outlay for expenses. What this means is contractually arranging to sell a company's products and paying for the products after the sale, keeping a set percentage of the profit. This greatly reduces the amount of seed money you would need to get a fund raiser off the ground.
- \$ As you can see, there are many resources available to student organizations wishing to provide quality programs for their members or even the entire campus. Remember to plan ahead though; it is much easier to raise money when you have time and a well thought out plan on your side.

RELATED SAO RESOURCES

- ◆ Fund Raising Ideas
- ◆ Money Matters
- ◆ Successful Fund Raising

REFERENCE

Adapted from: St. Norbert College, Department of Leadership, Service & Involvement

*Additional resource handouts are available as well as consultation services.
For more information, contact the Student Activities Office in the Student Center at 465-4450.*