



The POGIL Project's SPUR⁺ FAQ

When Rick Moog received the American Chemical Society's 2016 Pimentel Award for outstanding contributions to chemical education, he accepted the award on behalf of The POGIL Project and the entire POGIL community—noting that in true POGIL[®] fashion, you can't do it alone. In honor of the Pimentel Award, and in celebration of the POGIL community and the power of people working together to bring about lasting change in education, The POGIL Project introduced SPUR⁺.

POGIL SPUR⁺ is designed to promote new ideas and to *spur* collaboration between POGIL community members through small seed grants of up to \$2500 for proposals that further the goals of The POGIL Project as described in its current strategic plan. Priority will be given to proposals that start new projects, however, we don't discourage submission of follow up proposals. The original SPUR grant program ran from 2007-2009 and funded 17 proposals, resulting in many significant and successful projects still in use today.

How many SPUR⁺ grants will be awarded in 2024?

- Up to two SPUR⁺ grants will be awarded in 2024. In future years, the number of SPUR⁺ grants offered will depend on available funding.

How many collaborators are required to apply for a SPUR⁺ grant?

- To be considered, each proposal must have at least two people as co-applicants. The co-applicants will also be the designated project leaders/key personnel (the project may also include additional key personnel who are not co-applicants or project leaders).

What are the eligibility requirements for co-applicants?

- Co-applicants must have participated in at least 6 hours of POGIL Project workshops (equivalent to one full-day POGIL workshop). Current members of The POGIL Project Steering Committee are not eligible to be either co-applicants or additional key personnel.

How much funding can we apply for?

- The maximum SPUR⁺ grant is \$2500.

How do we apply for a SPUR⁺ Grant?

- Review the *SPUR⁺ Official Grant Guidelines* and *How to Apply* on our website at: <https://pogil.org/about-the-pogil-project>

What is the deadline for applications?

- Applications are due by 5 PM E.T. on September 15, 2024.

When are applications accepted?

- Applications will be accepted from July 1, 2024, through September 15, 2024.

When will decisions be made?

- By November 15, 2024. Decisions will be made by the POGIL Steering Committee

If selected for a SPUR⁺ grant, when should our project start?

- Start dates for projects will be between January 1, 2025, and July 1, 2025.

If selected for a SPUR⁺ grant, how long do we have to complete our project?

- Projects must be completed no more than two years after the project's start date.

If selected for a SPUR⁺ grant, how are funds awarded?

- Funds will be distributed as reimbursements for expenses described on the approved proposal budget.

If our project involves writing POGIL activities or other pedagogical materials, what are the terms of publication?

- The POGIL Project shall have right of first refusal to publish any pedagogical activities or materials developed directly with SPUR⁺ funding under its standard publication terms. Any exceptions must be clearly requested and explained in the application to be considered.

What are the requirements for projects that include research involving human subjects?

- IRB (Institutional Review Board) approval is required for the research component of funded SPUR⁺ projects involving human subjects (at the post-secondary level). IRB approval is not needed to apply for a SPUR⁺ grant, but will be required to start the project. If you are considering a project that is going to involve human subject research with minors, please contact the POGIL National office to discuss before applying for a SPUR⁺ grant.

What types of projects does SPUR⁺ fund?

- In addition to being a startup project conducted collaboratively, priority will be given to projects likely to have a lasting impact and that demonstrate a strong connection to The POGIL Project and The POGIL Project's Strategic Plan. Follow-up projects are less likely to be funded, however, we are always interested in proposals that advance the goals of The POGIL Project. See below for examples of recipients of the original SPUR grants.

Past SPUR+ Grant Recipients

2022:

- *Translation of POGIL resources to promote the inclusion of Spanish-speaking faculty and students* led by Joan Roque, Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Puerto Rico, Cayey and Santiago Toledo, Associate Professor of Chemistry at American University. The team plans to translate general chemistry POGIL activities to Spanish so that faculty members who teach at Spanish-speaking institutions or to Spanish-speaking students can have access to these activities. They also plan to translate POGIL fundamentals (1hr/3hr) workshop materials to Spanish so that POGIL can offer workshops in Spanish. These strategies will help us recruit and support faculty members from Spanish-speaking communities and countries while creating a more inclusive POGIL community for them.
- *Prompts to Promote Teamwork in the Classroom* led by Gifty Blankson, Asst. Professor of Biochemistry at Maryville University, Patrick Cafferty, Assoc. Teaching Prof. of Physiology at Emory University, and Andri Smith, Professor of Chemistry at Quinnipiac University. Building on a pilot study to explore the potential relationship of teamwork behavior and specific prompts, the team plans to meet following NCAPP 2023 to formulate research questions, design experiments, and write materials such as institutional review board (IRB) protocols and surveys for the next phase of their study to take place during the 2023-24 academic year.

2021:

- *POGIL Activities for Introductory Microeconomics* developed by Neal MacDougall, Professor of Agribusiness at California Polytechnic State University and Mare Sullivan, Adjunct faculty, Science Education, Seattle Pacific University. The team plans to create and classroom-test 21+ new single-concept POGIL mini-activities that will allow students to develop the basic concepts of an Introductory Micro-Economics course (with agricultural goods as examples).

2020:

- *POGIL Activities for Introductory Art: Elements of Art*, developed by Mare Sullivan, Adjunct faculty, Science Education, Seattle Pacific University and Lori Stanton, Science teacher, Canyon Park Middle School, Bothell, WA. The team plans to create and classroom-test 15 new POGIL activities that will allow students to develop the basic concepts of the Elements of Art.

2019:

- *POGIL for Psychology*, developed by Jill Rinzel, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee at Waukesha, and Jessi Hill, Associate Professor of Psychology, Utah Valley University. Jill and Jessi are interested in expanding POGIL to the psychological sciences and will be creating activities for introductory psychology courses. In the future, they hope to build beyond introductory psychology into cognitive psychology.

- *ExPo-POGIL: Exploring Polymers in the Undergraduate Chemistry Curriculum Through POGIL Laboratory Experiences*, developed by Andrea Van Duzor, Professor of Chemical Education, Chicago State University; Kristy Mardis, Professor of Computational Physical Chemistry, Chicago State University; and Mary Twist van Opstal, Chemistry Instructor/Chemistry Education, Harper College. With the 2015 revision to the undergraduate guidelines for approved chemistry programs, the American Chemical Society highlighted the need to improve undergraduate education in polymer science. To help meet this need, Chicago State University and Harper College plan to collaborate to create a new set of introductory and upper-level polymer POGIL laboratory experiments.

2018:

- *POGIL Physical Science Activities Designed to Support the NGSS*, led by Mare Sullivan, Adjunct Faculty in Science Education at Seattle Pacific University; and, Amy Steele, Middle School Science Teacher at Cornerstone Christian Academy. The team plans to create a collection of twelve new POGIL activities for middle school physical science, to specifically address NGSS standards.

2017:

- *Middle School Earth and Life Science POGILs*, led by Lori Stanton, a master teacher with experience as a high school and middle school science teacher; and, Amy Steele, a middle school science teacher at Cornerstone Christian Academy. This team, with Mare Sullivan as a consultant, has developed 22 activities that have been beta tested in middle school classrooms. The activities have been designed to meet specific Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and have undergone the POGIL activity feedback and endorsement process and will be published soon by Flinn Scientific.
- *Environmental Science Activity Cultivation (ESAC)*, led by Caryl Fish, Professor of Interdisciplinary Science and Environmental Chemistry at Saint Vincent College; and, Daniel King, Associate Professor of Environmental Chemistry at Drexel University. The team will be meeting several times throughout 2018, including during the POGIL Northeast Regional Meeting, to catalogue existing college level environmental science activities, determine the stage of development for each, while also identifying any gaps in content coverage. Once the identification phase is complete, a team of environmental science faculty will move the collection forward by writing, reviewing, and classroom testing the activities.

2016:

- Congratulations to Ashley Mahoney from Bethel University, and Rob Whitnell from Guilford College, for receiving the 2016 SPUR⁺ Grant for their proposal to develop lab activities: *SPIRAL: Strengthening the use of Process, Inquiry, Reflection and Application in the Laboratory*.

Examples of Projects Funded by the Original SPUR Grant Program

The primary difference between SPUR and SPUR⁺ is the focus on collaboration, although, as you can see from the original SPUR funded projects below, working together is so often a natural part of the POGIL community's approach.

- **Activity Development Projects:** High School Biology Activity Book; POGIL Activities for Advanced Inorganic Chemistry; PGP - POGIL GOB Project; Creating a POGIL workbook for high school chemistry; POGIL Methods to Improve and Assess Concepts of the Mole.
- **Projects as Springboards to Successful Grant Funding:** POGIL-ENVY: POGIL Activities for Environmental Chemistry; POGIL-PCL.
- **Workshop and Professional Development Projects:** Inaugural Conference of POGIL Northwest Regional Network; SuperLab Workshop: Lab Workshop & Facilitators Training; Development of a peer-coaching network.

Still have questions? Email Jen Perot at jen.perot@pogil.org in the POGIL National Office or call 717-358-4589.