Engaging Your Campus for National Conference Funding

Fair Trade Campaigns is excited to invite you to join us for our 2020 National Conference, March 20-22 in Southern California.

Over the past few years, our work has grown exponentially, and we now have over 280 campaigns on campuses and in communities across the U.S. reaching millions of consumers and institutions to grow the Fair Trade movement. College students have been at the forefront of that growth and the conference would not be complete without you there – so we want to help make that happen. We have assembled a suite of resources to empower you to engage your campus in becoming a Campus Partner by covering the cost of your attendance. Join us to celebrate our success and help take our movement to the next level.

Potential Sources of Funding on Your Campus

Which organizations, offices and departments is your Fair Trade campaign connected to?

- Student Government
- Sustainability Office
- Provost’s Office
- Student Affairs Office
- Campus Ministry Office
- Service Learning Office
- Catholic Relief Services Ambassadors
- Academic departments focused specifically on the conferences topics

Does your campus have a fund for student research projects or professional development, or a designated campus ‘Green Fund’?

Many campuses have a ‘Green Fund’ that supports student sustainability initiatives. Do some research to find out if your campus has one of these funds and, if so, what the application process and timeline is.

Ask your campaign’s staff, faculty or other non-student member for ideas around potential funding sources.

Do you have a staff or faculty champion for Fair Trade on your campus or an advisor for your campaign? If so, schedule a meeting with them to see what ideas they have for potential funding sources for the conference. Do they have a department budget of their own that could help fund your or your committee’s attendance?

Resources

Visit conference.fairtradecampaigns.org for additional resources on how to engage your campus in becoming a Campus Partner, including conference details and a sample funding request letter.

Testimonials from 2019 Student, Staff & Faculty Attendees

“This conference was amazing! Everything was executed so well, and it was a stress-free weekend. I did not know what to expect going into the weekend, but the conference exceeded any expectations that I may have had. Having the opportunity to hear from national and global leaders in Fair Trade was so inspiring and helpful in my own journey in advocating for Fair Trade. This conference filled me with so many ideas to take back to my own campus, and has filled me with so much passion and excitement for this amazing movement. Thank you for an amazing weekend and for being advocates for a world of justice!”
- Jenna Thomas, Cleveland State University

“This was my second year attending. Each trip has been a transformative experience in gaining advocacy tools. Seeing the movement come together in one room makes it real and tangible. The work we are collectively working on is vital to the future of our global community as producers and consumers and the conference continues to remind me of this.”
- Sarah Richard, University of Dayton

“Our students felt deep impact, both from the speakers and from spending a weekend surrounded by businesses and social changemakers dedicated to social justice through fair trade. The way the conference is organized, the types of people who attend, the atmosphere and the learning are exceptionally conducive to student development. Our students came home inspired, and each has already approached us with varying ideas to further civic engagement on our campus. I would recommend this conference strongly as an excellent program to learn, reflect on personal and structural, and gain inspiration and practical knowledge for moving fair trade- and social change in general- forward on campus and beyond.”
- Jonathan White, Bentley University

"As the host city for the 2019 National Conference, most of the students in our Fair Trade club were able to attend. It was a wonderful experience for them to learn more about Fair Trade, talk with potential partners, and hear the stories of producers that have benefited from Fair Trade. This type of inspiration is necessary to consistently work to grow the movement to help more workers worldwide."
- Christie Klimas, DePaul University

Questions? Want to strategize?
Contact Campus & Community Engagement Manager Kylie Nealis at kylie@fairtradecampaigns.org.