



**Request For Proposals  
For The  
(2019 Funding Cycle)  
From The  
Unconventional Energy Center Workforce Development &  
Curriculum Enhancement Committee  
At  
Colorado Mesa University**

**Organizational Background**

The Unconventional Energy Center at Colorado Mesa University was created as a part of the Redifer Research Institute in March of 2012. Its goal is to promote the region served by Colorado Mesa University as an epicenter for energy innovation. To accomplish this goal the Center has identified the following strategic objectives:

- Promote research and development of new and emerging technologies/processes for new and existing energy businesses.
- Support the development of new and existing business through innovations in the energy industry that promote the reduction of operating costs, increased effectiveness of resource extraction and reduced impacts on the environment.
- Promote the development of a regional and local business climate that aligns federal, state and any local laws and regulations that minimizes duplication while creating a streamlined, consistent regulatory process.
- Identify and promote new markets for natural gas.
- Develop curriculum to provide a skilled work force to assist the energy industry in meeting these objectives.
- Provide educational opportunities to increase community awareness of the importance of unconventional energy development and the benefits and challenges it poses on the region.

**Project Scope**

Although the stated goals of the Unconventional Energy Center promote both applied research and educational enhancement opportunities, this specific Request For Proposals is limited to those designed to promote workforce development and/or community awareness of the

impacts of unconventional energy development in the region and state. The Center has budgeted approximately \$60,000 each year to allocate on said initiatives. Curriculum improvements should focus on improving the workforce skills needed in the unconventional energy sector. Funding will also be made available for proposals that increase awareness of the unconventional energy industry's impact on our region and state.

The Center will disburse its budgeted funds through several grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000 but will entertain proposals for projects up to \$30,000. Proposals should address one or more of the following areas:

- Development or modification of any CMU or WCCC program or course that is related to the unconventional energy industry and/or its impacts on the region or state.
- Conducting conferences, seminars or webinars to enhance workforce development and/or community awareness.
- Visiting lecturers or fellows to provide courses designed to promote workforce skills for the unconventional energy industry.
- Guest lectures available to CMU students, faculty, and community residents pertaining to some aspect of the impacts of unconventional energy development.
- Establishment of internships with the unconventional energy industry for CMU and WCCC students that enhance workforce skills and strengthen partnerships.
- Provision of scholarships for students pursuing degrees related to occupations in the unconventional energy sector.

### **Proposal Guidelines and Requirements**

**Preference will be given to proposals that include matching funds.** An estimated value of in-kind contributions may be considered as matching funds.

*Proposals are limited to five pages plus attachments and must contain:*

- A clear statement of goals and objectives as they relate to (1) supporting work force development in the unconventional energy industry or (2) creating community awareness of regional and state impacts from development of the unconventional energy industry.
- A description of how the proposed project will achieve its goals and objectives.
- An itemized budget that includes salaries, materials, and any special equipment costs associated with the proposal.
- A timeline including deliverables.
- A component that addresses the assessment of the project and/or its effectiveness.

### **Proposal Deadlines and Submission Information**

Proposals will be considered until funding is exhausted, on an as submitted basis throughout the calendar year which ends on December 31, 2019. The availability of funding will be provided on the Center's website throughout the year. Once funding is exhausted any subsequent proposals will be considered in the next year when the funding source has been replenished. A final report detailing the work effort and assessment of results will be required within thirty days of completion of the project.

Proposals should be submitted by e-mail to the CMU Unconventional Center c/o [dawagner@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:dawagner@coloradomesa.edu) . Questions about the submission process should also be sent to this e-mail address. The Unconventional Energy Center's Curriculum and Workforce Development Committee will select projects to be funded. Applicants will be notified within thirty days of their decision.