

2025-2026 Student Assembly Special Projects Funding Request Survey PENDING APPROVAL

Cornell Student Assembly Special Projects Application (Part 1)

Dear Cornell Student Assembly Special Projects applicant,

This form is the official application for AY 2025-2026 Special Projects funding. Below are guidelines for the Special Projects fund:

The Student Assembly may choose to fund any project, program or service through the Assembly Special Projects that it deems to improve the quality of undergraduate student life. Special Projects funding is a type of category spending. Special Projects funding may be requested by any of the following, but not limited to:

- (i) Any Cornell registered student organization,
- (ii) the Assembly committee chairs that seek funding for expenditures that exceed their committee's budgeted allocation.

(1) The President and Vice President for Finance together may approve any special projects funding request up to \$500 without consultation with the Executive Committee. Amounts up to \$500 may also be funded by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Request must be made public at a Student Assembly meeting in the form of an "Announcement/Report" before being approved. Any voting member can motion for the request to be sent to the Executive Committee if they feel necessary.

(2) The Executive Committee shall decide upon special projects requests over \$500 and under \$2,500 by a majority vote. The Assembly, at large, may reverse an Executive Committee decision to fund amounts over \$400 by a two-thirds vote. The request should be presented to the Student Assembly in the form of a resolution.

(3) Requests \$2,500 and over shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and confirmed by a majority vote of the Student Assembly, at large. The Assembly, at large, is only required to confirm requests of \$2,500 or greater. The request should be presented to the Student Assembly in the form of a resolution.

In addition to the Special Project rules outlined in the 2025-2026 Standing Rules, pursuant to APPENDIX B: STUDENT ASSEMBLY GUIDELINES FOR FUNDED ORGANIZATIONS, Section 4: Organization Specific Guidelines (lines 822-825) of the [Student Assembly Charter](#), an organization is only allowed a maximum of \$5,000 per semester in Special Projects funding.

- x. Student Assembly
 - a. The Student Assembly allocation shall be managed and overseen by the Cornell University Office of Assemblies Department.
 - b. The Student Assembly Special Projects allocations should not exceed \$5,000 per organization per academic year.

What Organization is requesting the funding? *

Cornell Persian Students Organization (PSO)

Please do not just display an acronym, type out your group's name in its entirety.

What is your role in your organization? *

Treasurer

If applicable, please list all conflicts of interest that your organization has with the Student Assembly. (Ex. Names of Organization members who are members of the Student Assembly or Student Assembly committees) *

Arman Fard - Freshman Representative Zora De Rahm - President

Please list any Student Assembly members or committees you have worked with in regard to this project.

What Primary Funding Byline Organization does your Organization currently receive funding from? *

Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC)

What is the Total Expected Cost of your project? *

24000

What is the total disbursement your organization is requesting from the Special Projects fund? *

5000

Please describe the project your organization intends on using Special Projects funding for.

If this is for a one-time event, please include the name of the event, date of the event, expected attendance at the event, etc.

If this is for a one-time purchase of a good or service, please describe the items to be purchased, quantity purchased, cost per item, number of people this purchase will affect, etc. *

Cornell Persian New Year Celebration - March 14, 2026 - Expected attendance (150-200)

Please list all sources of funding your Organization has received or requested from in the 2025-2026 AY. This includes funds that will not be used on this project, as well as funds that will be used on this project. *

Requested- CU Tonight; Requesting- International Students Association, maybe ALANA

Please list all sources of funding your organization received, has applied for, or intends to apply for in the 2025-2026 AY. In addition, name all sources of funding that will be used to fund this project. Finally, name all other possible sources of funding that have failed to fund this project and how they have failed.

Please quantify the expected number of students impacted by this project. *

200+

Please describe the expected number of attendants and/or students impacted by this project.

Please outline all sources of income and expense for your organization in AY 2024-2025. *

Please see this google drive with a detailed image with income and expenses for our organization in the 2024-2025 Academic Year:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PdZnjb1kdZizEOWYNFk1iEz73dPFFBa?usp=sharing>

This should not be a transaction history. Expenses should be event costs, food for meetings, etc.

Please describe all related expenses for this project. Be as specific as possible when describing each expense, and be sure to include quantities purchased, the cost per unit, and a breakdown of food costs if applicable. Include any links to websites used to purchase these items or services. *

Please see this google drive with images/receipts of most of the expenses: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PdZnjb1kdZizEOWYNFk1iEz73dPFFBa?usp=sharing>

Please list and describe the expenses by category for the project.

Describe how your Organization intends to adhere to Cornell University Policies related to Accessibility and Inclusion. *

The Persian Students Organization, an Independent student organization at Cornell University, is fully committed to adhering to Cornell Policies on Web Accessibility and on Prohibited Bias, Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual and Related Misconduct in the planning and execution of our Nowruz Celebration on Saturday, March 14, 2026 from 7 PM to 10 PM in the Statler Ballroom. Our Nowruz event is held in person and is open to all Cornell students and will not include alcohol or drugs. Although Nowruz is a cultural celebration with roots in Iran and the broader Middle East and Central Asia, our program is intentionally inclusive and welcoming to individuals from all backgrounds. Our promotional materials clearly invite all Cornell students to attend, regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or any other identity protected under Policy 6.4. While we are conducting outreach to communities historically connected to Nowruz, attendance is not restricted in any way. There is no entry fee, no membership requirement, and no identity based limitation on participation. In compliance with the Web Accessibility policy, all digital promotions for the event, including social media posts, flyers, and our CampusGroups page, will/do already include clear, readable text and alternative text descriptions for images. Essential details like the date, time, location, accessibility, and funding acknowledgments will appear in caption text and not solely within graphics. The event location, Statler Ballroom, is a centrally located and accessible campus venue that meets university accessibility standards. We will ensure that seating arrangements

allow for mobility access and that pathways remain unobstructed throughout the event. As we anticipate attendance between 150 and 200 students, our executive board will actively manage the space to maintain a safe and inclusive environment. Any student requiring accommodation will be supported in coordination. Moreover, the Persian Students Organization maintains a zero tolerance approach to harassment, discrimination, or exclusionary conduct. The event will be hosted and run by the PSO Executive Board, who will be present throughout the evening to oversee operations, respond to concerns, and ensure respectful engagement. The historical overview of Nowruz, the Haft Seen display, the DJ music, and the catered meal prepared by Statler chefs will be presented in a manner that promotes cultural education and cross cultural understanding rather than political or religious exclusion, especially considering the current landscape in Iran. While our program may acknowledge current global attention on Iran and the region, discussions will remain respectful, educational, rooted in solidarity, and aligned with university standards for civil discourse. We have registered the event through 25Live, created the event through CampusGroups, reviewed university event guidelines, and will include all required funding acknowledgments in promotional materials. Through accessible communication practices, open and nondiscriminatory participation, careful venue selection, and active event oversight, the Persian Students Organization affirms its commitment to ensuring that the Nowruz Celebration reflects Cornell University's standards for accessibility, inclusion, and equity.

Note: Although your project/ initiative may be targeted toward a specific group of Cornell students, your Organization can not discriminate against identities protected under Policy 6.4, which are those protected under federal, state, and local equal education and employment laws and regulations.

Policy related to Accessibility ([Policy 5.12: Web Accessibility](#))

Policy related to Inclusion ([Policy 6.4: Prohibited Bias, Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual and Related Misconduct](#))

Please upload the most updated Constitution or Charter for your organization. *

 Upload file

[PSO_Constitution.docx](#) (Delete)

Please upload the most updated Bylaws or other Governing Documents for your organization. *

 Upload file

[PSO_Constitution.docx](#) (Delete)