



COUNCIL for OPPORTUNITY in EDUCATION

## Paul T. Spraggins State Initiative Grant REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### **Purpose:**

To assist state/chapter associations in creating and/or strengthening outreach initiatives, the Council's State Leadership Committee provides **matching funds** for outreach activities and strategies. Fundable outreach initiatives traditionally are those that improve the association's state advocacy, engagement in education policy, enhance development capacity, train members on and develop media relations, or increase alumni engagement.

### *Match Funds*

1. States/Chapters become eligible for matching funds each project year, October 1<sup>st</sup>-September 30<sup>th</sup>, after their Regional Association commits Outreach Initiatives funds for each of its states/chapters.
2. COE matches the Regional Association's commitment, up to \$500 for each state/chapter with an approved grant request submission.
3. States/Chapters are encouraged to budget their own additional funds to leverage the combined COE and Regional commitment.

Associations and states that would like to learn more about the Paul T. Spraggins Grant or download this RFP can utilize the Council's website ([www.coenet.us](http://www.coenet.us)) under the "Resources" header and the "State Leadership" section. Associations that have already received Council funds for state outreach efforts in previous years **are** still eligible and encouraged to apply.

### **Submission Requirements:**

Associations are asked to complete the attached application form **and** provide a brief project summary. The project summary should be attached and limited to two pages in length. **Include a detailed budget showing the amount requested** and matched for all activities. The Council will NOT grant funds for travel to the Council's Policy Seminar, food in excess of \$250, or committee planning meetings. Please explain in detail how the proposed activity or event will impact the state/chapters' ability to conduct outreach and advocacy of the TRIO mission.

### **Deadline:**

Please send an electronic version of the application form and project summary to your Regional State Initiatives Chair. Once approved by your region, applications are then forwarded (single batch for each region) to Krysti Specht, State Leadership Contractor at the Council for Opportunity in Education at [krysti.specht@coenet.us](mailto:krysti.specht@coenet.us). Approved funds will be dispersed to your regional treasurer. Applications are considered on a rolling basis, with quarterly submission deadlines beginning in 2016 (March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, and December 1<sup>st</sup>). Please remember each region is required to fully match the amount COE contributes to the initiative, and agrees to do so by approving and submitting the request.



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### **About Paul Spraggins:**

The Paul T. Spraggins State Initiative Awards have been created by COE to promote the vitality of grassroots efforts to expand college opportunity and to encourage the development of young leaders who share Paul Spraggins' values and vision. These state initiative grants are intended to assist state/chapter associations in strengthening outreach initiatives and encouraging the development of state leaders. Paul Spraggins played a significant role in helping to establish COE's state outreach efforts and was a tireless champion of TRIO and COE, devoting countless hours and traveling immeasurable distances to defend the ideal of equal educational opportunity and to pursue resources relentlessly in support of COE's mission.

Paul Spraggins was an educator who worked relentlessly to assure that young people – particularly those from low-income and minority families – had a real chance to create better lives for themselves and their families through higher education. He was outraged by injustice, realistic in his assessment of the obstacles that needed to be overcome if greater educational equity were to be achieved, and tireless in his efforts to increase opportunity for all citizens.

Paul Spraggins began working with educational opportunity programs in 1973. He served as Administrator for the Wisconsin Higher Education Aids Board and assumed responsibility for state efforts to increase access and success to higher education for low-income and minority students throughout Wisconsin. In 1982, responsibility for these efforts was transferred to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), and Paul was named Director of the Educational Opportunity Program and of the Office of Urban Education within DPI, positions he held until his retirement in 2002.

Paul worked ceaselessly to expand funding for educational opportunity efforts in Wisconsin – with Governors – both Republican and Democratic, senior state officials, and legislators. He sought to expand state-provided funding with federal funding as well. Ultimately, Paul built a broad range of offerings in the Wisconsin Educational Opportunity Program utilizing funding from the TRIO Talent Search program, the DPI Pre-college Scholarship Program, and the Federal GEARUP program. Each year, more than 2,000 students who would become the first in their families to earn college degrees were assisted by programs which Paul fought for and led. Over 25,000 Wisconsin citizens—who faced major educational barriers – have earned college degrees supported by Paul's efforts.

Paul deeply respected his fellow educators and believed that these professionals to be organized in professional associations to advocate for low-income and minority students. He was involved at the foundational level in the establishment of such associations at the state, regional and national levels. In 1974, Paul was elected to serve as President of the Wisconsin Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel; in 1979 he was elected as President of the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel. While serving on the Board of the National Coordinating Council of Educational Opportunity Associations from 1978-1981, Paul and his colleagues laid the groundwork for the establishment of the Council for Opportunity in Education, which has nationally represented the educational aspirations of low-income students since 1981.



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# Paul T. Spraggins State Initiative Grant GRANT APPLICATION FORM 2016-2017

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Submission: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Funds Are Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Chapter Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Regional Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Regional Designee's Printed Name, Title, & Signature:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved by Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requested From Region (minimum \$500 1:1 Match w/ COE funds): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of COE Matching Funds (1:1 Match with Regional Association up to \$500 max): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

State/Chapter Funds Committed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Requestor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Association Office You Hold: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Delivery of Funds: Regional Treasurer's Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City/St. Zip

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Applicants are asked to provide a two page project summary and budget with this form to the Regional Association Designee. The regional associations will submit a slate of funded projects to Krysti Specht at COE for approval and disbursement of the 1:1 match with the region. State funds are encouraged to supplement the project.*