

Scripps Howard Fund invites independent college student media outlets to apply for sustainability program

Jan. 20, 2026

CINCINNATI – The Scripps Howard Fund is now accepting applications for its newly launched Student Media Sustainability Project, a pilot program designed to strengthen independent, collegiate student news organizations and position them for long-term success.

This two-semester initiative – running fall 2026 through spring 2027 – will help selected student newsrooms improve their ability to cover their campuses by enhancing audience engagement, growing revenue streams and strengthening governance and organizational structure.

[Click here to apply for the Student Media Sustainability Project.](#)

“In many cases, the most formative learning experiences for college journalism students come from practical experiences working in student newsrooms,” said Mike Canan, senior director of journalism strategies for the Scripps Howard Fund. “Unfortunately, many of these newsrooms are facing extinction because of financial challenges. Our goal is to experiment with ways to make these news organizations more durable so they can last for decades to come, providing the essential learning journalists need to succeed.”

The Fund is partnering with Barbara Allen, founder and director of [CollegeJournalism.org](#) and the [College Journalism Newsletter](#). Allen will provide the news organizations with consulting and training.

The program welcomes independent college media outlets – run entirely by students without university oversight or prior review – from public or private four-year institutions as well as community colleges. Publications, television stations, radio stations and digital-only outlets are all eligible.

Program participants will:

- Receive hands-on training and coaching from media coaches.
- Commit three teams or committees to the pillars of audience, revenue and governance.
- Work directly with consultants over the academic year to launch new revenue ideas, set measurable goals, boost campus relevance and improve governance practices to ensure editorial independence.

Questions? View [frequently asked questions here](#) or attend a virtual question and answer webinar on Feb. 5 at 5 p.m. [Sign up for the Q&A here.](#)

The deadline to apply is Sunday, April 12. [Apply here.](#)

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About the Scripps Howard Fund

The [Scripps Howard Fund](#), a public charity established by [The E.W. Scripps Company](#) (NASDAQ: SSP), is dedicated to creating informed and engaged communities through journalism education, childhood literacy and local causes. At the crossroads of the classroom and the newsroom, the Fund is a leader in supporting journalism through scholarships, internships, minority recruitment and development and First Amendment causes. The Scripps Howard Awards stand as one of the industry’s top honors for outstanding journalism. The Fund’s annual “If You Give a Child a Book ...” childhood literacy campaign has distributed thousands of new books to children in need across the nation. The Fund partners with Scripps brands to create awareness of local issues and support organizations that build thriving communities. The Scripps Howard Fund administers funding for the Scripps Howard Foundation, a private foundation established in 1962 to advance charitable causes important to The E.W. Scripps Company and the Scripps and Howard families.