

# UIS Green Project Letter of Intent- Step 1

## Project Name:

## Contact Information:

### Project Team

<i>Name</i>	<i>UIS Student/Faculty/Staff &amp; Department (or Office)</i>	<i>UIS Email</i>	<i>Phone #</i>
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Organization/Affiliation: University Of Illinois Springfield

## Project Information:

Please provide a brief description of the project. What are the goals and the desired outcomes of the project? This project proposes installing composting bins across campus on a per-semester basis. These areas could be in the dining areas, residence halls, and some outer spaces. The goal of the project is to reduce food waste sent to landfills, convert it into nutrient-rich compost, and educate students about unsustainable waste practices. You will realize that this also aligns with my field of studies, which is public health, and our concentration on environmental health, as one of our goals is to safeguard the health and well-being of the community we live in.

### Desired outcomes:

5–6 well-marked compost bins in high-traffic areas (Student Union, Founders Hall, HSB, WUIS).  
Collect up to 1–2 tons of organic waste per semester.  
Compost is used for campus landscaping, gardens, or tree plantings.

Please describe why this project matters to you and how it relates to sustainability.

Food waste accounts for a significant portion of landfill mass and methane emissions. Implementing composting reduces environmental impact and turns waste into a resource. You will realize that not only will this help the UIS community in fighting against environmental exploitation, but it will also significantly help in resource management, utilization, and use.

**Long-Term Vision:** Expand composting to all campus buildings, integrated with student-led sustainability projects, and make a model campus for zero-waste initiatives.

Where will the project be located?

Dining hall and student union: This place has attracted a lot of students.

**Residence hall common areas:** Encourage student participation.

**Outdoor gardening or landscaping areas:** Where composted materials will be reused.

Please provide a brief summary of how students will be involved in or affected by the project:

- Students should sort waste and monitor usage.

- Environmental studies students contract composted output, nutrient levels, and use in campus gardens.
- Student organizations can host “Compost awareness weeks” to increase participation.

Please provide a brief summary of the project timeline (Most approved projects are proposed in the Fall and implemented in the Spring)

**Fall Semester:** Bin selection, approval, and placement planning.

**Early Spring:** Install bins, label clearly, and run educational campaigns.

**Mid-late Spring:** Monitor usage, collect data, and apply compost to campus gardens.

Please provide a brief itemized breakdown of the funds needed.

- Compost bins (5 units at \$250 each): \$1,250 → Example: Sure-Close Compost Bin
  - Signage/labels: \$200
  - Educational materials & outreach: \$300
  - Labor for installation: \$500
- Total Estimate:** \$2,250

Do you have any suggestions for how we could measure the success of this project?

- Weight/volume of compost collected per semester.
- Student participation rates (survey or observation).
- Amount of compost reused in campus landscaping.

Additional comments:

This project is **visible, interactive, and educational**. It empowers students to make sustainable choices daily, reduces landfill waste, and creates a living example of campus sustainability in action.