Discretionary Startup Fund Guidelines

**Application Timeline**
- Applications are due at least four weeks prior to either the date of the event or the due date of the earliest payment (whichever comes first).
- Applications received within this four week deadline will be considered at the discretion of the Director of the Discretionary Startup Fund.
- Complete the funding application on the USG Funds website
- The application requires a full budget for your program along with official invoices/quotes/estimates for each individual expense
  - Funding is a first-come, first-served program. Apply as early as possible to avoid delays caused by school breaks and other technical issues
- Submitted Inquiries will be responded to within two business days, including funding decisions and application changes

**What is fundable?**
- Promotional materials, any other goods that will promote the brand of the organization and attract members (such as t-shirts, banners, etc)
- T-Shirts funded by USG may only be produced by a vendor who is authorized to work with USC Trademarks.
- Please check utilize the below link for access to approved vendors for the purchase of fundable materials

https://trademarks.usc.edu/authorized-vendors-student-organizations/

**The following are not eligible for funding:**

- Food or drinks
- Items for re-sale
- Reimbursements
- Student vendor

**Maximum per Academic Year**
- Individual organizations may receive a maximum of $500 from the Discretionary Startup Fund.
- There is no bonus in this funding branch for attending a funding workshop or a Bystander Intervention Training workshop.
- Funding is strictly for those organizations that have been recognized by Campus Activities and are 3 semesters or younger in age.
- No collaborations are allowed in this fund, strictly for one organization’s use.
Multiple Dipping (same group applying to different boards)

• Applicants can receive funding from different boards throughout the academic year.
  ○ Progression towards an organization’s limit is tracked individually by each board.
    • Ex. An organization receiving funding from the Discretionary Fund does not need to consider
      its funding from Philanthropy Fund earlier in the year when completing their application.
• Applicants may receive funds from only one USG account per event.
  ○ Examples of other USG accounts include all USG Funding Boards, Programming Boards, and
    Recreational Club Council).