

Budget Request: A Backup/Storage solution for VTLUUG services and members

We host several services for members and the general public, one of which is official reference material for Virginia Tech IT. Due to hardware failure and a lack of resources for the past few years, we no longer have the materials for an adequate backup solution to keep these services running: our purchase of hard drives here aims to rectify that.

Requested Total	\$880.00
Adjusted Total	\$880.00
Date Created	Tuesday, November 12, 2024 3:18:32 PM
Submitted By	Rishi Krishna
Organization	Linux and Unix Users Group at Virginia Tech
Status	Approved on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 2:50:06 PM
Process	A) 2024-2025 RSO/USLP Funding - USS Appropriations

9 Sections, 1 Line Item

Section: Insurance

Please complete this section if your organization needs funding for insurance

Section: Operational Supplies

Please provide a description of the operational supply that your organization is requesting.

*Operational Supplies are any items with the potential to be used more than once in its lifespan, having an expected lifespan of less than 3 years, and integral to an organization's mission.

Section: Non-Event Specific Advertisements

Please complete this section if your organization needs funding for advertising (print, social media, other).

*All events funded by the Appropriations Committee must include an accommodations statement on all marketing and advertising materials for events.

Section: Banners

Professionally printed banners will only be funded for general organization logos/information and may not be event or date specific. Banners will be funded up to the following amounts:

- o \$150 per banner
- o Table covering will be funded up to \$150
- o \$25 for reprinting per banner

Section: Non-Event Specific Items or Equipment

1 Line Item / \$880.00

Please provide a description of the equipment/item that your organization is requesting. Equipment is any item with the potential to be used more than once in its lifespan and with a lifespan of more than three years.

* Please note you can add additional line items if necessary.

* These line items are NOT required. If you do not need one, don't use it.

<p>MDD 16TB 3.5inch Internal Enterprise Hard Drive Equipment/Items (Expense)</p> <p>Renewed Hard Drives, at a per-drive cost of \$110 for 16TB, coming out to a low \$6.874 per-TB, currently the lowest on the market per https://diskprices.com</p> <p>the other lowest drives listed on that site that are Amazon Renewed (somewhat more reputable than a random used seller) are:</p> <p>\$7.785 / TB: https://vtluug.org/users/~rsk/files/14tb.png \$7.679 / TB: https://vtluug.org/users/~rsk/files/12tb.png and \$7.785 / TB: https://vtluug.org/users/~rsk/files/14_2.png</p> <p>here is the listing page for the drives we our buying: https://vtluug.org/users/~rsk/files/16tb.png</p>	<p>8 x \$110.00</p>	<p>\$880.00</p>
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Section: General Programs & Events-Contracted Performer Fee

Please provide detailed information regarding the budget request for all expenses related to the performer (Performance fee, travel, lodging, and meals) . If all inclusive offer (preferred), please amount in Performance fee line item

- * Please note you can add additional line items if necessary.
- * These line items are NOT required. If you do not need one, don't use it.
- * When you create a line item, please use the Expense Category as the "Name" field, unless you're requesting a "Miscellaneous" expense.
- * All events funded by the Appropriations Committee must include an accommodations statement on all marketing and advertising materials for events.

Section: General Programs & Events - Event and Production

Please complete this section if your organization needs to rent tables and chairs (Event Services) or to utilize services from Production Services

Section: General Programs & Events -Publicity & Advertising

Please complete this section if your organization needs funding for advertising (print, social media, other).

- *No more than twenty percent (20%) of an overall program cost will be awarded for publicity and advertising costs
- *All events funded by Appropriations Committee must include an accommodations statement on all marketing and advertising materials for events.

Section: General Programs & Events - Miscellaneous

Please fill this section out if your organization will be requesting anything other than the previously listed items. Please make a new line item for every item being requested, unless it is a duplicate of the exact same item.

Additional Information

General Information

What is the full name of the organization submitting this request?
 - Linux and Unix Users Group at Virginia Tech

What type of budget request are you submitting?
 Operational Funding

Please note that whoever is filling out this request will be considered the primary contact, making them responsible for all communications relating to it. What is the VT email address of the primary contact?

- rishik@vt.edu

What is the mission of your organization?

- The Linux and Unix Users Group at Virginia Tech (VTLUUG) is dedicated to improving the computing skills of its members, supporting Linux and Unix use on campus, and serving the community through Free Software and open data. We host various services for on-campus students and members, including DNS adblocking, Linux shell servers, storage, password management, and more. Some of our services, like our wiki, are used by Virginia Tech IT Personnel.

Operational Funding

I am seeking funding for:

Non-event specific items or equipment

Operational Funding - Non-Event Specific Items or Equipment

How does this equipment/item work towards your organization's mission?

- The Linux & Unix Users Group hosts a few moderately important services for university officials, most notable our wiki, which 4Help / Virginia Tech IT uses as the official repository for information on connecting to eduroam using Linux machines. You can this 4Help link here (https://vt4help.service-now.com/sp?id=kb_article&sys_id=3886a7206f7721003fcb03f5d3ee42f#linux). Presently, our infrastructure is without a functional backup/storage solution: we previously had spare Network Attached Storage, but part failure forced us to repurpose that machine, and now our data is not being backed up anywhere, potentially putting the uptime of our services at risk. In addition, the new space would be used for general user storage: all together, the new system would have about 100TB of storage, more than enough for students to use for their personal archival projects.

Has this equipment/item or similar item been previous funded by the USS Appropriations Committee in the past 3 years? *Reusable items with an expected life span of less than three years that are integral to the organization fulfilling its mission should be requested as non-event specific expenses

No

Is the equipment/item being requested for a specific event?

No

Where will your organization store this equipment/item?

- The Whittemore Server Closet, administrated by the ECE IT director, Bruce Buskill (bbuskill@vt.edu).

Is the equipment/item available through Virginia Tech, as a rental?

No

Why does your organization need this equipment/item, and how will it be used? *Please provide justification for why it is more cost-effective to buy vs rent.

- The new hard drives will go in one of our existing servers, building a storage array with a complete size of over 100 Terabytes (allowing for several drive failures without data loss). Getting this amount of storage from a cloud service provider like BackBlaze B2 would cost on the order of \$660 a month, every month that we want to retain our data. In comparison, doing it ourselves provides a valuable opportunity for club members to learn system and data administration, and in essence pays itself back within a single month. Once the storage array is built, members of the club will be able to upload and download from it at will, as well as apportion parts of it for their personal projects, and we can set up automated backups for our service data, to ensure that there is never significant downtime due to data loss.

Request History

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 2:50:06 PM - Gracia Bryan

Status: Approved

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 2:49:59 PM - Gracia Bryan

Audience: Requesters And Reviewers "Approved by the Undergraduate Student Senate (USS) Appropriations Committee. Please review your budget request with final allocations, comments, and adjustments via GobblerConnect. Please read ALL the following information. Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Funds were allocated on the premise that the requested funds have not already been spent. Please see this section in our policies for more clarification:

All payments must take place after approval from the USS Appropriations Committee.

Organizations cannot be reimbursed for payments made prior to funding approval. If payments are made prior to approval, the organization is solely responsible for paying those expenditures (retroactive funding).

REALLOCATIONS

If you wish to make changes to your spending or if you have a change in your conference/competition (reallocation), you must seek permission from the USS Appropriations Committee at least 7 calendar days prior to your event or expenditure, whichever is first.

Please complete the reallocation form on GobblerConnect if the need arises:
<https://gobblerconnect.vt.edu/submitter/form/start/644131>

PAYMENT PROCESSING INFORMATION

All payment processing documentation (receipts, invoices, etc.) for expenditures are due within 45 days from the day you receive this award notification.

All paperwork for the same budget request expenditure (including collaborative events) must be turned in at the same time.

ALL FORMS WILL BE TURNED IN DIGITALLY.

Forms are found on the Student Org Funding Website and submitted through the GobblerConnect form, linked on the website:

https://campuslife.vt.edu/Student_Orgs/Student_Budget_Board.html

Forms handed in-person or emailed will not be accepted or processed.

Example: If your award notification was issued October 31, 2024, that is the first day of the 45-day reimbursement period. All receipts, invoices, and documentation are due by December 15, 2024.

This is your responsibility to be aware of these deadlines and share this information with new members, collaborating VT departments (if applicable), and during times of organization leadership transitions. No exceptions will be made.

For payment related questions, please email budgetboard@vt.edu. For all other questions, please email appropriations@vt.edu."

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 2:49:53 PM - Gracia Bryan
Status: Moved Forward to: Funding Decisions

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 5:05:13 PM - Rishi Krishna
Status: Submitted

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 5:02:09 PM - Rishi Krishna
Status: Withdrawn

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 5:00:57 PM - Rishi Krishna
Status: Submitted
