STEP helps you to personalize and enhance your education by engaging in a transformational experience that you create: your STEP project. STEP and your STEP faculty encourage you to think deeply about your values, aspirations, talents, and passions to build an educational framework that is yours alone, that will take you farther along the path to your future than any major or minor might do alone. STEP faculty will help connect you with more of the vast resources of The Ohio State University than you might discover and use through following a traditional curriculum.

Your project should be something you can accomplish between May 1, 2015 and August 15, 2016 that takes advantage of who you are and who you hope to become. The proposal must explain how this will be a transformational experience for you. In order to be transformational, the project should be challenging and compelling for you. STEP funding is meant to help you overcome financial barriers while engaging in some combination of the Six Experiences appropriate for you and your goals, so the proposal should identify the resources you used as you developed the project and will use as you complete the project. Finally, the proposal should discuss the feasibility of the project, identifying milestones toward completion.

The Six Experiences of STEP
- Artistic and Creative Endeavors
- Internships
- Leadership
- Service Learning and Community Service
- Study Abroad
- Undergraduate Research

STEP PROPOSAL COMPONENTS
(Please include these section headings in your proposal)

1. Project Summary
   Please provide a 50 word summary that describes your project.

2. Description of Your Project
   In two pages (1-inch margins, 12-point font, single-spaced), present the basic elements of your proposed STEP Experience. Being able to articulate a clear, well-organized, and thought-provoking experience is key to creating a successful STEP proposal. Your description should address the following questions.
   - What is the primary objective of your project?
   - In which of the Six Experiences will you participate?
   - How will this experience be transformative for you?
   - What courses, if any, will you take and when will you take them as you prepare for and complete your project? If you will not be taking a course, what will be the academic component of your project?
• Is your project feasible with respect to time and resources? (Please provide a timeline.)
• What support services and people have you used in developing this proposal?

3. Personal Statement
In one page (1-inch margins, 12-point font, single-spaced), describe how your STEP project enhances your experience at OSU, how it is in concert with your aspirations, talents, and passions, and how it will help you attain your professional goals. This personal statement should tell the story of who you are, where you hope to go, and how this STEP experience can help you move toward your future in a personally challenging, socially expanding, intellectually evolving way. Please answer these questions in this section.
In what ways will your project be
• Personally challenging?
• Socially expanding, helping you to build a network of people and other resources?
• Intellectually developing, helping you to grow as an individual and a professional?

4. Budget
It is important that your project be realistic and doable. List the expenses you will incur as you prepare for and as you complete your project. This list should include all materials, equipment, travel, and fees. Also list all sources for funding the project, including the funding you will receive from STEP (up to $2000 based on actual expenses incurred). In one page, justify the expenses in relation to the project. Why are these expenses necessary?

5. Reporting Back
As a citizen of the university, you will show the university the value and depth of your project in a public forum. The STEP administration has determined 2 ways they would like students to reflect and report back on their STEP Experiences: 1) Students will be asked to reflect on their project through a reflective essay they will post on U.OSU.EDU. You will be asked to fill out a specific reflection form on this site, but you are also welcome and encouraged to post a blog, link to a portfolio, post photographs, include a website link, etc. 2) Students will also be required to report back to the university by presenting at the STEP Expo or another approved public demonstration. A STEP Expo will be held once each semester and students will participate the semester after their intended experience. Another public demonstration might include a research forum, a public performance, or a gallery presentation. In a paragraph, briefly outline the manner in which you plan to reflect and report back on the outcomes of your STEP project, including how it transformed you.

Deadlines
First Draft, February 1 (recommended)
Second Draft, March 1 (recommended)
Final Submission, April 1 (mandatory)

Revised 8/10/14