# *Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.*

# *Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at* *sustainability-committee@illinois.edu**.*

**Project Name:** Illini Formula Electric

**Date of Report Submission:** Please select the date of submission for this report.

**Project Purpose:**

Illini Formula Electric (IFE) is a student organization from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign that participates in the Formula Electric competition, hosted and sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). This is a holistic competition where students are challenged to design, fabricate, and race an all-electric race car marketed towards weekend autocross racers. The goal for our team is to train our members in the use of innovative engineering technology and in the process win the competition.

**Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:**

Since this semester (Fall 2017) is the design phase of our vehicle development, we have used our departmental account to make some minor purchases. This coming semester (Spring 2018) we will start making major purchases through our SSC funding account. We are glad to have this financial support as it enables much engineering and manufacturing freedom, helping us build the best vehicle that we can.

**Project Progress to Date:**

As mentioned before, in Fall 2017, we have mostly completed the design phase of our vehicle development. Building upon last year’s success, we aim to improve our vehicle’s reliability and performance through this year’s design. Subsystem leaders got their members involved and purposed design solutions, which went through our rigorous “final design review” process. This coming semester (Spring 2018), we plan to utilize the support offered by the SSC funding to manufacture our vehicle based on our proposed design.

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

Students have been increasingly interested in our project. In Fall 2017 we have over 200 students signed up at Quad Day and E-night, and we currently have 157 active members in our team “Slack”, an app we use to make inter-team communications. Newly recruited students learn from more experienced teammates, and they actively contribute to every aspect of our project. During design phase, they learn skills such as chassis force analysis, suspension kinematics design, battery cell thermal simulations and printed circuit board design. During manufacturing phase next semester, they will learn skills such as soldering, crimping and machining (after receiving proper training). Overall, our members learn skills in our team that can greatly complement the knowledge they learn in classroom.

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

We have conducted marketing and promotion efforts through our two main social media platforms, Facebook and Instagram. Our regular posts to these accounts help us both attract more potential members, and advertise for our sponsors. We also attend annual events such as Engineering Open House, Quad Day and E-Night, where we exhibit our vehicle, showcase the latest engineering technology used and help foster great relationship between us and our community. Especially at Engineering Open House, kids from K-12 institutions in the surrounding areas would come over to UIUC. This event helps us spark children’s interest in STEM subjects as well.

**Additional Comments:**

We are grateful for the financial support from SSC, and look forward to this exciting semester where we build our new vehicle for the upcoming competition.