



*Spencer Educational Foundation*

**2024 for 2025**

**Risk Manager on Campus  
(RMOC) Grant Program**

**BEST PRACTICE CONSIDERATIONS**

# PROGRAM & BEST PRACTICES OVERVIEW

There is nothing that resonates more with university and college students than bringing practical, industry-based experience onto campus. One of the best ways to accomplish this is to participate in Spencer's Risk Manager on Campus (RMOC) program. It offers grants of **up to \$5,000** to universities and colleges in the United States and Canada to host a practicing Risk Manager for a 1–3-day residency.

## **The grant award is to be used to:**

1. Reimburse the Risk Manager for travel, housing, and incidental expenses incurred from the visit.
2. Coordinate class visits, campus-wide lectures, panel discussions, meals, student club/organization meetings, senior administration visits, and/or receptions for students to network with and learn from the visiting Risk Manager, thereby exposing students to careers in Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) and cultivating excitement about the industry.

**Up to \$1,000 of the total grant award** may be allocated by the school to their local GIS chapter or any other Risk Management/Insurance/Actuarial Science/Finance/Management student organization for programming outside of the Risk Manager's visit.

What follows are activities that previous program participants have successfully used and might be considered as you develop your RMOC, including Spencer's University Partnerships Director, Ken Goldstein, while at the University of Hartford's Barney School of Business.

# RMOC

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## RMI 101 SPOTLIGHT

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**A RMOC should be afforded the opportunity to provide an interactive spotlight to a door-opener RMI class.**

- This is almost always elective-driven, typically includes a larger number of sophomores, and represents a true cross-section of business and other university/college students (including undeclared concentrations). Hosting faculty should share an applicable syllabus in advance with the RMOC and sufficiently prepare students to participate with questions.
- The RMOC can actively engage students and solidify their desire to pursue a more comprehensive RMI major/minor by better appreciating how the general RMI curriculum translates to hot topics and trends (e.g., Cyber and Privacy RMI, Business Analytics, etc.) and industry wide internships and full-time job opportunities.
- Faculty can strategically support the RMOC and grant recipient by offering extra credit for substantive engagement and targeted Q&A with the RMOC.

# RMOC

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## UPPER-LEVEL RMI INTERACTION

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**A RMOC should be equally supported with spotlight time associated with more advanced RMI courses.**

- This is a natural extension to an RMI 101 spotlight and affords upper-level students with the opportunity to engage in more robust (think next-level) Q&A.
- If planned in advance (perhaps targeting towards the end of the semester), this might create an opportunity for the instructor to consider a cumulative presentation by students with the RMOC acting as an informal judge. Alternatively, the RMOC can act as a capstone speaker, reinforcing important themes developed during the entire semester. As a reminder, hosting faculty should share an applicable syllabus in advance with the RMOC and sufficiently prepare students to participate with questions.
- Relatedly, consideration should be given to inviting the local RIMS Chapter President, an intermediary representative (e.g., insurance broker of the RMOC), &/or an insurance carrier partner for active engagement. Please note, however, that Spencer will not reimburse other participants from the university's/college's grant, only the RMOC.

# RMOC

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## SUPPLEMENTAL CLUB ENGAGEMENT

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**Outside of the classroom, the RMOC (and key industry representatives that join) should engage local university/college clubs and organizations.**

- This should include your local Gamma Iota Sigma Chapter, Actuarial Science Club(s), and other RMI-related Student Clubs (especially e-board representatives) and more senior business school organizations (e.g., a student-led, business leadership council).
- Strategic opportunities might range from a lunch or dinner (either informal or with a moderated panel discussion) to a joint collaboration with your career services center (e.g., think resume reviews, practicing 30-second elevator pitches, informal mentoring sessions, mock interviews, etc.).
- Consideration should also be given to inviting RMI alumni to support the RMOC event(s).

# RMOC

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## MEET WITH SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

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**Beyond engaging students, the RMOC should be afforded with the chance to visit with senior administration.**

- This might include the President, Provost, Dean, and Department Chair. If planned in advance, additional RMI Faculty, alumni, and/or the RIMS Chapter President might be invited to join the discussion(s).
- A dialog about how the RMOC (and key industry participants) might better support the long-term aspirations of your RMI program should be explored. This could include opening up local RIMS meetings to students (for free), discussing more broad-based career pathing plans to internships and full-time opportunities, the potential for future mentoring activities (e.g., once a month mentoring sessions), or perhaps even planting the seed for project-based (experiential) work in the future.