Fundraising Ideas

1. Letter writing to corporations (contact URI Foundation beforehand)
2. Grants (often through national organizations)
3. Exam survival kits
4. Holiday-themed gifts
5. Corporate fundraising program (Chocolates/Candy, donuts)
6. Game Face face-painting and tattoos (Special order URI temporary tattoos and sell them)
7. Community Bingo nights (See if a local community center would allow you to sponsor a bingo night)
8. College Care Packages (Sell care packages for students. Mail out order forms to the parents of those in your organization and friends of those in your organization.) – Get approval through the Student Activities Office first.
9. Picnic Basket Auctions (just the baskets and its contents) (Have individuals in your organization make theme baskets with food in them and then auction off ONLY the baskets)
10. Sports Clinics (Hold a clinic for youths in baseball, basketball, etc…)
11. Benefit Concerts (Have concerts and raise money through ticket sales.)
12. Book Fairs (Collect books and then hold a book sale.)
13. Car washes (Hold car washes at local gas stations.)
14. Haunted House (Have a haunted house during Halloween.)
15. Cookbook sales (recipes given by organization members)
16. Entertainment Books (Sell entertainment books.)
17. Flag Football Competitions (Have a flag football tournament and have an entrance fee.)
18. Jail-n-Bail (Charge students to have their friends "captured" by your organization members and put in a fake jail and then have those captured raise money to bail out. Please get university permission.)
19. Ultimate Frisbee Tournament (Have an ultimate Frisbee tournament and charge a participation fee.)
20. Double Dip Day (attendees pay for all they can eat ice-cream sundaes.)
21. T-shirt Sales (Sell T-shirts for events.)
22. Bumper sticker sales (Sell URI spirit bumper stickers.)
23. Student/Faculty Talent Show (Host a student/faculty talent show and charge an admission fee.)
24. Birthday cake delivery program (Take orders for birthday cakes and deliver them.)
25. Singing Telegrams (Take orders for singing telegrams.)
26. Empty Soup Bowl Dinners (Go to a pottery painting store and paint a bunch of bowls and then sell them. After selling them you offer a dinner in which they can eat out of those bowls. Place a plastic bowl inside the pottery one so not to ruin it.)
27. Recycling Drive (Hold a recycling drive.)
28. Work at Alumni/faculty/staff homes (Offer to rake leaves, wash cars, etc… for alumni of your organization or faculty and staff.)
29. Ad Books (Sell ad blocks to local businesses and then compile a book of them all.)
30. Guessing Games (how much jelly beans in the jar?)
31. Car magnets (Sell URI car magnets. These can be ordered online.)
32. Face Painting before events (Charge for face painting at booths before a sporting event.)
33. Asking businesses to match fundraising totals (Ask local businesses if they will match the amount of money raised in a fundraising event. Example: You earn $200.00. Ask is that business will donate $200.00 to match what you earned.)
34. Candle Light Evening out (Sell tickets to a night of romance with a candle light dinner and dance.)
35. Fundraising dinners at local restaurants
36. Putt-Putt golf tournaments (Have a putt-putt tournament and charge an entrance fee for participants.)
37. Bowling tournaments (Have a bowling tournament and charge a fee for entering.)
38. 5-K races (Hold a 5-K and have an entrance fee as well as donations.)
39. Sponsor a midnight bowling night (Have a midnight bowling event and charge to participate.)
40. Track and Field events (Have a track and field event and charge teams to participate.)
41. Beach Volleyball tournaments (Have a beach volleyball tournament and charge for each participating team.)
42. Kickball tournaments (Have a kickball tournament and charge an entrance fee for the teams.)
43. Capture the Flag Tournaments (Have a capture the flag tournament and charge an entrance fee.)
44. Watermelon Fest (Have a whole bunch of fun events using watermelons such as a watermelon eating contest and getting the greased watermelon out of the pool. Charge an entrance fee for participating teams.)
45. Spaghetti Dinners (Charge people for eating spaghetti.)
46. Human Chess Tournaments (Have participating organizations pay an entrance fee and then have a chess game using people of that organization as the various chess pieces.)
47. Root Beer Floats (Sell root beer floats)
48. Candle Sales – for gifts only. Not allowed in Residence Halls for fire safety reasons. Get approval through the Student Activities Office first.
49. Chili Cook off (Have participants pay an entrance fee to enter the event.)
50. A quarter-mile quarter exchange (Have participants place quarters on a piece of tape that they estimate to be a quarter mile long.)
51. Jump Rope-a-thon (Have participants pay an entrance fee and raise money to participate in a jump-roping contest.)
52. Caramel Apple Sales (Sell candy apples)
53. Stadium Clean-ups (Call local stadiums and offer to clean up after games. Often times the stadium offers a donation to your organization for doing so.)
54. Hole-in-One Contest (Participants pay to take a shot for a hole-in-one.)
55. Ice-cream social (Decorate like an old-fashion ice cream parlor and sell make-your-own ice cream sundaes and splits.)
56. Brown Bag Challenge (Ask people to donate the money they would spend on lunch to your organization and bring a brown bag lunch instead for one day.)
57. Yard Clean-ups (Charge a fee to rake leaves and clean up peoples’ yards.)
58. Birthday Baskets (Sell baskets for people’s birthdays and then deliver them.)
59. Birthday Grams (Sell singing telegrams for people’s birthdays.)

Important! You can not hold a raffle without first gaining permission from state or local police.

How to Obtain Authorization http://www.risp.ri.gov/sectionsandunits/charitablegaming.php

An application fee of five dollars ($5.00) is required with each application for raffles or bingos. Please include a check or money order in that amount, made payable to the "Rhode Island State Police“ with your application.

Raffles

If your organization wishes to conduct a raffle, you may obtain the raffle application from your local police department or from this web page. After you complete the application, submit it along with the five dollar application fee to the Chief of Police in the city/town where the drawing will be held (with the exception of Providence, where it must first be submitted to the Providence City Hall Licensing Department). The Chief of Police will conduct records checks on the applicants and sign the application indicating his/her approval or disapproval of your request. The application will then be forwarded to the Rhode Island State Police Charitable Gaming Unit. Your application will be reviewed here to see if it meets the criteria outlined in the Rhode Island General Law. When the application is approved, a letter will be sent to the applicant, with a copy being sent to the Chief of Police in the city/town where the drawing will be held. You may sell the tickets anywhere, but you must hold the drawing in the location indicated on your application. A financial report will be included with the letter of approval. This financial report must be completed and returned to the Rhode Island State Police Charitable Gaming Unit within sixty (60) days after the drawing. No further authorizations will be approved until we receive your financial report.

Important!

A copy of the letter approving the raffle must be given to the Student Event Advising (SEA) office before any raffle can be held.