**2020 Student Research Grant Application**

**Green Fund Mission Statement:** “The NAU Green Fund promotes student participation in and provides funding for projects that reduce NAU’s negative impact on the environment and create a culture of sustainability.”

In support of the Green Fund’s Mission Statement and its ability to improve sustainability on campus, the Green Fund will be accepting proposals for research projects that help to understand and reduce NAU’s environmental impact, with the goal that this research funding could act as seed funding for Green Fund project proposals.

Although the Green Fund will consider all applications that meet the Student Research Grant guidelines, the Green Fund has recognized a need for specific fields of research that will improve sustainability on campus. Below is a list of desired research projects. Applications addressing these categories will be given preference in the selection process. Additionally, research projects that are designed to produce actionable results at NAU through the Green Fund will be given further preference.

1. **Student Research Grant Proposal Recognized Needs:**
* Energy
	+ Analyzing NAU’s energy usage and identifying areas of improvement
	+ Feasibility of large-scale renewable energy projects on campus
* COVID19
	+ Environmental impacts of online learning
	+ Mental health impacts of online learning
	+ Understanding food insecurity of the NAU community
	+ Transportation impacts of COVID19
	+ Consumer safety of single-use plastic versus reusable materials
* Emissions
	+ Quantifying carbon sequestration on campus
	+ Feasibility of utilizing algae for carbon sequestration
	+ Carbon emissions of manufacturing construction materials used on campus
	+ Analyzing carbon emissions of the NAU Fleet
* Other
	+ Analyzing water capture and reduction on campus
	+ Understanding sustainability behavior/perspectives of NAU students

Application opens: **September 11, 2020**

Application closes: **October 25, 2020 at 5:00PM**

Funding awards will be announced by: **November 20, 2020**

Submit completed application packages to: **GreenFund@nau.edu**

**Application Details**

All applications **must** meet the following requirements to be considered for funding:

1. Research must be primarily conducted by either an **undergraduate or graduate student**

who is currently enrolled full-time at NAU.

2. Research must be conducted under the guidance and approval of a full-time NAU faculty member.

3. Research design and goals must focus on improving sustainability on NAU’s campus.

Only a complete application package will be considered for funding. A complete application package includes:

• An abstract of the projects goals, expected results, and broader impacts to the NAU

campus community; 200-300 words.

• Detailed project proposal (1-2 pages), with specific information about current literature, research goals, methods, and how this research will improve sustainability at NAU.

• Questionnaire (filled out from template provided below).

• Project budget (filled out from template provided below).

• Project timeline (filled out from template provided below).

• Letter of recommendation from faculty supervisor of the project which specifically addresses the student’s ability to conduct and complete the research (may be submitted separate from the rest of the application package, but must be received by the deadline).

• Signed commitment from the student to present a status update of their research in the form of both an oral presentation to the Green Fund Committee and a poster/exhibit presentation at the Undergraduate or Graduate Symposium, no more than 1 year after receiving notification of funding.

Additional Requirements and Rules:

• Funding provided by the Green Fund may not be used in any way for faculty salary.

• Funding may allow for use as student wages depending on the specifics of the project and explicit approval from the Green Fund. The Green Fund recognizes that some projects require minimal physical materials, but rather a significant amount of time.

• Funding is limited to one proposal per student per year, but applicants may apply across multiple years. A student who has previously received a Green Fund Student Research Grant is no more or less likely to receive a second year of funding.

• Recipients of the Student Research Grant will be determined at the sole discretion of the Green Fund Committee. Funding is dependent on a merit and goals-based review of all complete applications.

• Average award funding is $3,500, but applications requesting higher amounts will still be considered.

* Undergraduate students may budget $10.00/hour for 200 hours maximum
* Graduate students may budget $15.00/hour for 200 hours maximum

**Contact Information**

Project Leader Name: Phone: E-mail:

Project Advisor Name: \_ Phone: E-mail:

Position: Department:

Project Name:

Please select the focus of your research project, then address the following questions.

☐ Analyzing NAU’s energy usage and identifying areas of improvement

☐ Feasibility of large-scale renewable energy projects on campus

☐ Environmental impacts of online learning

☐ Mental health impacts of online learning

☐ Understanding food insecurity of the NAU community

☐ Transportation impacts of COVID19

☐ Consumer safety of single-use plastic versus reusable materials

☐ Quantifying carbon sequestration on campus

☐ Carbon emissions of manufacturing construction materials used on campus

☐ Analyzing carbon emissions of the NAU Fleet

☐ Analyzing water capture and reduction on campus

☐ Understanding sustainability behavior/perspectives of NAU students

 ☐ Other:

1. How will your research benefit the mission statement of the Green Fund and improve sustainability on NAU’s campus?

2. Will your research require the utilization of any spaces or infrastructure on campus? If so, identify the specific locations and/or infrastructure, how much of the space you require, and what each space will be used for.

3. Will other departments on campus (other than your own) be needed to assist in this project (i.e. Facility Services, Campus Transit)? If so, identify department partnerships.

Please respond to the following funding question, and complete a thorough breakdown of all project costs in the provided Line Item Budget below. **Include a 5% line item for contingency**.

1. Does this project have any other sources of funding, and/or have you applied for other sources of funding? If so, list all additional sources of funding, both confirmed and potential, outside of the funds being requested from the Green Fund.

**Line Item Budget:**

**Item Justification of Item Quantity Price per Unit**

**Total Funding Requested:**

Please provide an expected timeline for your research in the template below. The Green Fund recognizes that complex projects of this nature should have flexible, adaptable schedules, and the timeline provided will be treated as such. However, it is expected that you strive to adhere to this schedule as much as possible.

**Expected Timeline:**

**Action Parties Involved Month/Year**

**Expected Project Completion Date:**

Please read and sign the statement below, acknowledging your commitment to present the findings of your research.

If selected as a recipient of the 2020 Green Fund Student Research Grant, regardless of the

outcome of my research project, I

commit to presenting the status of

my research described in this application in the form of both an oral presentation to the Green Fund Committee and a poster/exhibit presentation at the Undergraduate or Graduate Symposium, no more than 1 year after receiving notification of funding.

The oral presentation to the Green Fund Committee will consist of an approximately 10 minute long PowerPoint that includes the following aspects of your project:

* Original goal and purpose of research
* Conflicts or changes to original purpose
* Results/Conclusion
* All relevant graphical displays of data

Project Leader Signature:

*Thank you for your submission. We deeply appreciate your commitment to sustainability at NAU, and we look forward to reviewing your application. Please direct any further questions to* ***GreenFund@nau.edu****.*