



GREEN FUND

Sustainability Through Student Innovation

2022 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.

2022 Student Research Grant Proposal Recognized Needs:

- Energy
 - Analyzing NAU’s energy usage and identifying areas of improvement
- Waste Minimization
 - Campus-wide composting service and education
 - Waste management or minimization on NAU campus
 - Impacts and tracking of waste during student move in/out
- Intersectionality/Environmental Justice
 - COVID sustainability
 - Diversifying sustainability across campus
 - Indigenous knowledge and applications
- Transportation
 - Bike safety & resources on campus
 - Buses and public transportation
- Emissions
 - Carbon sequestration
 - Scope three emissions (ex: commuting)
 - Carbon emissions of manufacturing construction materials used on campus
 - Analyzing carbon emissions of NAU
 - How much does green space on campus contribute to carbon sequestration?
 - How can NAU’s facility services fleet be upgraded/updated to lower emissions?

- o What are the costs and benefits associated with different types of green roofs?
- Other
 - o Analyzing water capture and reduction on campus
 - o Understanding sustainability behavior/perspectives of NAU students
 - o Does working in the campus garden (SLUGG, SNAIL, etc.) improve students' mental health?
 - o What is the demand among students for more, different or better sustainability education?
 - o Water consumption of turf grass at NAU and alternatives landscaping

Application opens: **February 21st, 2022**

Application closes: **March 21st, 2022**

Funding awards will be announced by: **Monday, April 11th**

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 the faculty supervisor of the project which specifically addresses the student's ability to conduct and complete the research (may be submitted separately 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 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: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Project Advisor Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Position: _____ Department: _____

Project Name: _____

Commitment to Present Research

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

If selected as a recipient of the 2021 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 the 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.