



# GREEN FUND

Sustainability Through Student Innovation

## 2023 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.

### Spring 2023 Student Research Grant Proposal Recognized Needs:

- **Waste Minimization:**
  - Waste stream analysis conduction
  - Evaluation of reduced availability of single-use plastics on campus
  - Impacts and tracking of waste during student move in/out
  - Construction of a student-friendly e-waste system
  - NAU recycling system audit
- **Emissions & Transportation:**
  - Carbon sequestration through campus landscaping practices
  - Contribution of campus green spaces to carbon sequestration
  - Electrifying NAU’s facility services fleet
  - Feasibility of alternative transportation to campus
  - Carbon emissions of manufacturing construction materials used on campus
  - Analysis of carbon emissions of NAU
- **Intersectionality & Environmental Justice:**

- Incorporating knowledge from Indigenous communities into NAU curriculum and campus culture
- Evaluation of the impact of vegan/vegetarian diets on NAU dining services purchasing
- Demographic of students experiencing food insecurity
- **Other:**
  - Ecosystem services evaluation of NAU campus
  - Audit of diverted energy from replacement of non renewable sources to green alternatives
  - Sustainability effective products as a replacement
  - Green roof feasibility on campus and cost-benefit analysis
  - Analyzing water capture and reduction on campus
  - Understanding sustainability behavior/perspectives of NAU students

**Grants will be awarded using rolling deadlines and the Committee will enforce a priority date with a soft close during week 12 of the semester. Due to limited time and a reduction in weekly meetings at the end of the semester, the Committee may not review applications submitted after.**

**Priority Deadline: April 3rd, 2023**

**Submit completed application packages to: [GreenFund@nau.edu](mailto: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 project's goals, expected results, and broader impacts to the NAU campus community; 200-300 words.
- Detailed project proposal with specific information about current literature, research goals, methods, and how this research will improve sustainability at NAU; 1-2 pages.
- 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.
- As of Spring 2023, the Student Research Grant application portal and associated documents will remain available throughout the calendar year; however, funds will be encumbered at the beginning of each semester to cover the expected costs. Grants will be awarded using rolling deadlines to increase student participation and the Committee will enforce a priority date with a soft close during week 12 of the semester. Due to limited time and a reduction in weekly meetings at the end of the semester, the Committee may not review applications

submitted after.

- Undergraduate students may budget \$15.00/hour for 200 hours maximum
- Graduate students may budget \$15.50/hour for 200 hours maximum
- Any increase/decrease in these values is up to the discretion of the committee.

### **Contact Information**

Project Leader Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Advisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application Submission: \_\_\_\_\_



4. How will you monitor the impact of your research after completion? What do you plan to do with the results of your research?

# Project Budget

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	Item Justification	Quantity	Price per Unit

**Total Funding Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Project Timeline

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	Completion Month & Year

Expected Project Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# 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 Green Fund Student Research Grant, regardless of the outcome of my research project, I \_\_\_\_\_ commit to presenting the status of the research as describe in this application in the form of both an oral presentation to the Green Fund Committee and the poster exhibit presentation at the Undergraduate or Graduate Research 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](mailto:GreenFund@nau.edu).*