



NAU Green Fund

Research Grant Application

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 on-campus.”

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.

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.

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 package includes:

- **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, data collection and dissemination, and how this research will improve sustainability at NAU (1–2 pages).
- **Questionnaire** (filled out using the provided template).
- **Project budget** (filled out using the provided template).
- **Project timeline** (filled out using the provided template).
- **Letter of recommendation** from the faculty supervisor addressing the student's ability to conduct and complete the research (may be submitted separately, but must be received by the deadline).
- **Signed student commitment** to present a status update of their research in both an oral presentation to the Green Fund Committee and a poster/exhibit presentation at the Undergraduate or Graduate Symposium, within one year of receiving 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 student wages** depending on project specifics and explicit Green Fund approval. The Green Fund recognizes that some projects require significant time and labor, not just materials.
- If funding is used for student wages, the applicant **must coordinate payment** through the department of the project advisor. The Green Fund does not coordinate student positions.
- 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 **neither more nor less likely** to receive funding again.

- Recipients of the Student Research Grant are determined **at the sole discretion of the Green Fund Committee**, based on merit and goals-based review of all complete applications.

Application Availability and Deadlines

The Student Research Grant application portal and associated documents will remain open throughout the year.

- Funds will be **encumbered at the beginning of each semester** to cover expected costs.
- Grants will be awarded on a **rolling deadline basis** to increase student participation.
- The Committee will enforce a **priority date with a soft close during week 12** of the semester.
- Applications submitted after this time **may not be reviewed** due to limited availability and reduced weekly meetings at the end of the semester.

Project Coordination and Funding Distribution

- Applicants are responsible for contacting other university entities if the research involves **space use or alteration of existing infrastructure**.
- Upon approval, **funding will be disbursed** to the department of the project advisor or designated sponsoring department.

- Any **unused or remaining funds** must be returned to the Green Fund after the research project is completed.

Student Wage Guidelines

- **Students** may budget **\$15.50/hour for up to 200 hours maximum**.
- Any increase or decrease in wage values is **at the discretion of the Committee**.

We highly recommend meeting with a Green Fund Committee member prior to submitting the application. The Green Fund Committee member will assist you with the Project Application writing process, if needed. Please reach out to GreenFund@nau.edu for assistance.

Contact Information

Contact Information	
Project Leader Name:	
Phone:	
NAU Email:	
Date:	
Expected Graduation Date:	
Project Name:	

Department / Advisor Information	
Project Advisor Name:	
Project Advisor Department:	
Phone:	
NAU Email:	
Title:	

Funding Information for Transfer	
Local Speedchart:	
Financial Contact:	

Project Overview

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability, for questions that are not applicable, please list N/A.

Please select the focus of your research project.

- ☐ Renewable energy/Energy efficiency
- ☐ Emissions reduction
- ☐ Environmental justice/ Intersectionality
- ☐ Waste Minimization
- ☐ Understanding sustainability behavior/ perspecting of NAU students
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Other: _____

1. How will your research promote the purpose of the Green Fund and further 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. Please refer to the [Space Committee Approval Process](#) document to know if your research will require approval through the space committee.

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

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

Research Budget

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

Does this research 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

5% Contingency (5% of total project cost)	
Total Research Cost	

Total Funding Requested:

Research Timeline

Please provide an expected timeline for your research in the template below. Green Fund recognizes that complex research 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. **Please be as specific as possible.**

Expected Timeline:

Action	Parties Involved	Completion Month & Year

Expected Project Completion Date:

Sponsorship Form Completion Checklist

Please complete all of the following items before submitting an application.

- ☐ Contact Information
- ☐ Project Overview
- ☐ Project Budget
- ☐ Project Timeline
- ☐ Obtain **ALL** necessary letters of support for reimbursement, ongoing maintenance, student wages, etc. Attach the letters of support to the completed application.
- ☐ Submit the completed application to GreenFund@nau.edu

Commitment to Present 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 described in this application in the form of an oral presentation to the Green Fund Committee or a 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

Student 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.