



GREEN FUND

Project 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.”

REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDING:

- The project must be implemented on the Flagstaff Mountain Campus.
- The person submitting the project must be a NAU student, faculty, or staff member.
- Projects must provide all necessary documents, letters of support, and authorizations prior to submission.
- The Green Fund distributes funding on a **reimbursement basis**. Project teams should partner with an administrative office to provide upfront funding for the project. Once the project has been successfully completed, the Green Fund will reimburse the administrative partner.
- All project applications should be submitted to greenfund@nau.edu for review.

DISCLAIMERS: All applications will go through a comprehensive vetting process, and you may be asked to provide more detailed information. **The Green Fund is not responsible for acquiring the necessary permits, permissions, or approvals for a project, although we are happy to assist with this process if needed.** Additionally, the Green Fund does not provide any ongoing maintenance costs unless otherwise specified by the committee. A sponsoring department must take responsibility for operations and management. The Green Fund Committee only meets during the academic year. All projects submitted outside of the regular academic year will be reviewed at the start of the next academic session.

REVIEW PROCESS: Upon project application submission, the Green Fund will begin to review your project within two-three weeks. At this time, the Green Fund will provide comments on the project. **This process can extend for long periods of time depending on the scope of the project.** Incomplete applications will not be reviewed until all components are submitted.

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 proposal writing process, if needed.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Information

Project Leader Name: Erin McAnally-Trejo

Phone: 480-688-9019

NAU Email: Erin.McAnally-Trejo@nau.edu

Expected Graduation Date (if applicable):

Project Name: Student-Led Energy Audits for Campus Buildings- Summer 2025

Project Advisor Information

Project Advisor Name: Andrew Iacona

Phone:

NAU Email:

NAU Department/Unit for Funding Reimbursements:

PROJECT OVERVIEW

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

Executive Summary

Please provide a brief overview of your proposal. Please address how this project will support the goals of the Green Fund (student involvement, creating a culture of sustainability, and lessening NAU's impact):

This pilot project, NAU Energy Audits for Campus Buildings, provides a high-impact educational opportunity for NAU students while directly supporting campus sustainability goals. Under the mentorship of Andrew Iacona—an experienced faculty member in NAU's Construction Management program with extensive project management expertise—three students will participate in detailed energy audits of two campus buildings. These audits will identify inefficiencies and recommend actionable improvements to reduce energy use, utility costs, and greenhouse gas emissions.

The student team, ideally drawn from construction management and engineering programs, will complete the Energy Auditing Fundamentals online training in June 2025. This preparation will enable them to assist in conducting ASHRAE-compliant Level 2 and Level 3 audits, including utility analysis, walk-through assessments, energy modeling, and cost/savings evaluations.

By involving students in this professional, faculty-guided process, the project supports the Green Fund's goals of fostering student engagement and creating a culture of sustainability. It

also exemplifies NAU's role as a living lab—turning our own buildings into sites for learning and innovation. The results will help inform real upgrades that reduce emissions and energy costs, many of which can be funded through NAU's Sustainability Revolving Fund. These improvements will generate future savings that replenish the fund, supporting a self-sustaining cycle of efficiency and reinvestment.

This initiative not only reduces NAU's environmental impact—it builds lasting capacity for student training, campus innovation, and scalable sustainability solutions.

Project Components

1. Does your project require space or construction on campus? If so, where? Please review the "Space Committee Document" located on our webpage and follow the steps to begin requesting a location.

No, this project does not require any dedicated space or construction on campus. The energy audits will be conducted on two existing campus buildings, which will be selected based on their energy consumption profiles, the availability of building plans, and the presence of utility metering infrastructure. These audits will involve temporary walk-throughs and the short-term deployment of monitoring equipment but will not require any physical modifications to the buildings.

2. Have you obtained all necessary approvals for this project? The Green Fund is not responsible for acquiring the necessary permits, permissions, or approvals for a project, although we are happy to assist with this process if needed. Please attach all letters of support to this application. Letters of support should include confirmation from the sponsoring department that the sponsoring department will cover all upfront expenses and work with the Green Fund Business Manager to acquire reimbursement after project completion.

We have been actively coordinating with Facility Services, NAU's Utilities Department, and the Office of Sustainability to ensure alignment and support for this project. Once the two campus buildings are selected, we will coordinate directly with their respective building managers to schedule site visits and ensure access for audit activities. All relevant stakeholders will be kept informed throughout the process.

We understand that the sponsoring department is responsible for covering upfront expenses and will work with the Green Fund Business Manager for reimbursement upon project completion. Letters of support confirming this commitment will be attached to the application.

3. Does the project include any continued maintenance costs? The Green Fund does not provide any ongoing maintenance costs unless specified within the budget and approved by the committee. A sponsoring department must take responsibility for operations and

management.

No, this project does not include any ongoing maintenance costs. It is a standalone audit and reporting effort focused on data collection, analysis, and recommendations for energy efficiency improvements. Any implementation of recommended measures would be handled separately by Facility Services or other relevant departments and fall outside the scope of this proposal. The sponsoring department will take full responsibility for project operations and management during the audit period.

4. Will this project provide funding for student wages? Coordination of wages must be done through the sponsoring department and must be included within the project budget.

Yes, this project includes funding for student wages and professional training. The proposed budget allocates \$23,040 for the hourly pay of three students over the summer term. These students—recruited from NAU’s engineering, construction management, sustainability, or environmental sciences programs—will gain hands-on experience by assisting in professional-level energy audits under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

Additionally, the budget the cost of the Energy Auditing Fundamentals online training program (\$650 per student). This training will equip the students with the foundational knowledge and technical skills needed to meaningfully contribute to the audit work.

Wage and training coordination will be managed through the sponsoring department, and all associated costs are included in the project budget.

5. Please list all additional sources of funding you have pursued, including department, grants, ASNAU graduate, student government, etc.

We have not pursued any other funds, but plan on utilizing funds from the Sustainability Revolving Fund for future efficiency projects that will be informed by the findings of this audit.

Project Specifics

1. Is there a public outreach plan? How do you plan on communicating your project with the NAU community? Do you require assistance from the Green Fund in your outreach plan?

Yes, we plan to share the results and impact of this project with the NAU community through several channels. Upon completion of the audits, we will present our findings to Facility Services, the Office of Sustainability, and relevant academic departments. We will also create a brief, accessible summary report and infographic that highlight key outcomes, such as estimated cost savings, energy reductions, and greenhouse gas (GHG)

mitigation. These materials can be shared through campus newsletters, sustainability-related social media, and the NAU Green Fund website.

We would welcome any assistance from the Green Fund in amplifying our outreach efforts, especially through digital platforms and student-facing communications.

2. Are you working with other groups on or off campus? If so, describe your partnership.

Yes. We are collaborating closely with several on-campus partners, including Facility Services, NAU's Utilities Department, and the Office of Sustainability. These departments are providing access to utility data, building plans, and technical input. Once buildings are selected, we will also coordinate with building managers to facilitate walk-throughs and equipment installation.

The faculty advisor for the project, Andrew Iacona from the Construction Management Program, brings significant experience in energy efficiency and project management and will oversee student training and audit activities.

Project Parameters

1. What are the environmental costs and benefits associated with your project?

The environmental benefits of this project are substantial. By identifying and recommending cost-effective Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs), the project will support direct reductions in energy use, utility costs, and GHG emissions on campus. These recommendations can inform future implementation projects, helping NAU meet its climate action goals.

There are no significant environmental costs associated with this project, as it involves temporary monitoring and analysis only—no construction, waste generation, or resource use beyond standard equipment and computing tools.

2. Is this a one time expense or will you require future funding for your project?

This is a one-time expense for a pilot project. However, one of the key goals of the project is to create a replicable model that future student teams can follow. If successful, we hope this effort will pave the way for a recurring, institutionalized program—potentially integrated into academic offerings or funded through other campus resources such as the Sustainability Revolving Fund. Any future efforts would require separate funding proposals.

3. How will you measure and monitor the impact of your project after its implementation?

The impact of the project will be measured through the final audit reports, which will include quantitative data on current energy usage, identified inefficiencies, and projected savings from proposed ECMs. Key performance indicators will include estimated reductions in energy consumption (kWh and therms), GHG emissions (MTCO₂e), and financial savings.

In addition, we will track student outcomes, including completion of the training program, hands-on learning experiences, and any post-project applications of the skills gained. Follow-up with Facility Services will also allow us to monitor the adoption of audit recommendations over time.

Project Budget

Please include a thorough breakdown of all project costs as well as **justification for each line item**, as well as a 5% line item for contingency. Based on the parameters of the project, the committee may increase or decrease this contingency. **Make sure to include all potential taxes or costs associated with each item.**

Item	Quantity	Price	Justification
Student Wage \$16/hr per student	1440 total hours	\$23,040	Standard high level student wage rate
Faculty Wage \$55	240 total hours	\$13,200	Standard faculty summer compensation
Employee Related Expenses		\$10,000	When NAU employs people there are associated expenses such as insurance etc.
Energy Audit Training	4 (three students and one advisor)	\$2600	Training for faculty and students

5% Contingency (5% of total project cost)	\$1942
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Total Project Cost	\$40,782
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Project Timeline

Please provide a timeline for the significant dates of your project. Please add all relevant information and consider any holidays/breaks and time required to obtain necessary approvals. **Please be as specific as possible.**

Timeline	
Action & Parties Involved	Month/Year
Hire Three Students	June 13 th
Energy Auditing Fundamentals online training	June 16,17,18 th
Begin audit work	June 19 th
Project Wrap up and Report Delivery	August 11 th

Anticipated Date of Completion	August 15 th
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Project 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

Thank you for your submission. We deeply appreciate your commitment to sustainability at NAU, and we look forward to working with you.