



# 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](mailto: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

Project Leader Name: **Connier K. Gilliam**

Contact Information

Phone: (602)-639-2056

NAU Email: ckg84@nau.edu

Expected Graduation Date (if

applicable): Project Name: P3 Advisor

Project Advisor Name:

Abraham Henn

Phone: (928)-523-5435

NAU Email:

Abraham.Henn@nau.edu

NAU Department/Unit for Funding

Reimbursements: NAU Office of

Sustainability

### **Project Advisor Information**


## **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):

Back in 2022, NAU's President Jose Luis Cruz Rivera declared a climate emergency and committed the university to reaching carbon neutrality for its Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030.

The university has  main power plant systems that span the campus as well as a complex tunnel system that connects the buildings around campus to these power systems. A few years ago, the NAU Green Fund paid for a consultant to look into these. One is the North Plant, which consumes roughly 70 percent of the campus's natural gases, and the other is the South Plant, which consumes around 15 percent of the campus's natural gases. Only 65 percent of the buildings on campus are connected to this system.

The piping and power plant systems used are inefficient and falling apart, with the last upgrades being done back in 2012, and a system that uses natural gas and boil steam and water. In order to decarbonize these processes, we need to convert them to a low hot water

system.

Doing this would cost the University around \$60-70 million, which is something we cannot afford. This is where the Public-Private Partnership comes in. The university would sell our infrastructure to them, and instead of gaining any money, the company would take that money and decarbonize the systems. That company would then sell us energy back at a certain rate.

There are two main techs that can be used to decarbonize our systems. The first is Biomass to Organic Materials, which would take materials like wood waste, residue, livestock materials, and more. These would be used as a carbon-neutral combustion fuel for producing heat and power. This option is considered carbon neutral as it would be taking material that would be decomposed or burned, either way, and therefore would produce methane or CO<sub>2</sub> naturally. The other option would be a Ground Source Heat Pump, which would use underground temperature stability to extract or reject heat through a closed-loop piping system. This would allow the system to draw heat from the ground in the winter from heat pumps, and then during the summer, it would reject heat back into the ground instead of using cooling towers.

The part of this project that this proposal is requesting is funding for the P3 Advisor. This would be someone with experience in setting up a project like this to ensure we get the best situation as well as avoid any legal conflicts. They would work on the request for proposal (RFP) and find a company that is willing to take on the project. The funding for this project will be to cover the first-year salary of this position.

### **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 proposal is just for the funding for the P3 Advisor.**

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.

All necessary approvals have been made, and the letters of support have been attached.

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 continued maintenance costs will be required for this project. This is not the total cost, and another proposal may be made down the line if more funding is needed.

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.

This project will not provide nor need funding for student wages.

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

\$50,000 will be provided from the NAU Sustainability Revolving Fund.

## **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?

Campus Engagement- Stakeholder Engagement is a listed qualification of the P3 Energy Advisor. There will be lots of engagement with the community, clear communication about the project and its progress.

Student Engagement- This project will have lots of areas for students to get involved by making a culture of sustainability here at NAU. The P3 advisor will also work with Kjacks and other school associations to share information about the project.

There will also be an internship position opened during the spring semester for student engagement.

Data Reporting- The RFP states that transparent communication regarding data collected and progress reports will be shared.

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

Office of Sustainability & Facilities Services

Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR)

**Brailsford & Dunlavey** (P3 Advisor): This will be the company that will be our P3 advisor and will help us find a good company that fits everything the University will need. The company has previous experience working with Universities on similar projects.

Future P3 Energy Services Partner (To be Determined)

This will be a university-wide project that will need permission from the Arizona Board of Regents. The funding is to find a P3 Energy Advisor, which will be Brailsford & Dunlavey, a organization with previous experience in projects like this.

**Project Parameters**

1. What are the environmental costs and benefits associated with your project? 2. Is this a one-time expense or will you require future funding for your project? 3. How will you measure and monitor the impact of your project after its implementation?

This project will significantly reduce NAU’s Greenhouse gas emissions as it will decarbonize the campus heating and cooling systems which account for roughly 42 percent of the university's total emissions. The transition to a different type of clean energy source will lower the university's carbon footprint and reduce its reliance on fossil fuels


This specific request for the P3 Energy Advisor Phase is a one-time expense. Once a company is picked, the University will sell its energy structures to them, and they will go through the process of decarbonizing the structures and selling that energy back to the University.

**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
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P3 Advisor	1	235,000	This purchase will be for the P3 Advisor company and will get the project up and going. They will be work on the RFP proposal in order to ensure we find a company that will be beneficial in the long-term aspect.

5% Contingency (5% of total project cost)	\$11,750
Total Project Cost	 6,750

## 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
RFP Issued	Jan/2025
Pre-Proposal Conference and Proposal due Dates	Feb/2025

Evaluation/Selection	March-April/2025
Contract and Start of Project	May/2025

Anticipated Date of Completion	May 2025
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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](mailto: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.*