

Skyrail rainforest foundation

PROTECTING TROPICAL RAINFORESTS
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



Guidelines:

Applications for Funding Students



About

The Foundation

The Skyrail Rainforest Foundation has been established with the primary objective of raising and distributing funds to support tropical rainforest research and education projects.

Monies raised are paid into the Skyrail Rainforest Research Fund, which is administered by a Public Fund Management Committee, consisting of representatives with environmental management, research, education and business experience.

Our

Objectives

The research objectives of the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation are:

1. To establish, conduct and carry out research and education programmes to assist the community in understanding and appreciating the value of tropical rainforests throughout the world.
2. To support the research, study and investigation of:
 - Rare and endangered rainforest fauna and flora
 - The biology and ecology of rainforest canopies
 - The interdependence between species
 - Effective management to minimise the impacts of rainforest tourism
 - Human benefit from rainforest biological resources
 - The downstream impacts of rainforests
 - Biodiversity
3. To support better education of the wider community by communicating the results of relevant research including:
 - The production of management guides and best practice literature for rainforest managers.
 - Educational resources, computer websites and lesson kits for schools.
 - Translations of existing educational material for non-English speaking people.
 - Seminars, publications and conferences for the general community.
4. To assist with projects where the primary objectives are to protect, present, conserve or rehabilitate tropical rainforest, its flora and fauna.



Your

Invitation

Organisations or individuals are invited to submit funding applications for projects that meet the Foundation's objectives.



STUDENT GUIDELINES: APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

FUNDING

Skyrail Rainforest Foundation is proud to have supported research projects from a vast array of rainforest focussed genres for 19 years. This support has enabled many students to complete or further their studies and, ultimately, has contributed to the collective knowledge gathered on the subject of tropical rainforests.

Eligible students can now apply to access research funding grants of:

- For PhD and Research Masters project students – grants of up to \$5,000 per year for 1, 2 or 3 years. Each subsequent year payment will be subject to satisfactory submission of progress reports demonstrating successful project progression and funding acquittal.
- For Honours, Graduate Diploma in Research Methods and Masters course work students where there is a strong research component in the project – grants of up to \$2,500.

Students will be required to share their progress on a regular basis and also provide the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation with a summary of their research once completed. This information may form the basis of local news and/or social media articles.

Well conceived projects that meet the focus and objectives of the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation for the current round of funding, and that demonstrate scientific rigour and innovative research while addressing gaps in or adding to current knowledge, will be viewed favourably.

Special consideration will be given to collaborative or partnership approaches where the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation funding enhances the outcomes and intrinsic value of a project. The most beneficial use of funds, for example the purchase of minor items of equipment that can provide multiple use, field data collection and analysis of data, is preferred. Air travel, conferences and food will not be funded.

FOCUS FOR CURRENT FUNDING ROUND

For this round of funding, the Foundation would particularly encourage applications that address the following concerns:

- Impacts of and recovery from extreme rainfall events and large-scale landslips on the Wet Tropics rainforest.
- Impacts of climate change (historic and future) upon Wet Tropics rainforest and appropriate management strategies to respond.
- Climate-resilient development pathways for tropical forest landscapes
- A comparison of current methods to estimate the carbon sequestered in tree plantings and secondary forest recovery.

Successful project applications will align with the Foundation objective of supporting:

- Pure research aimed at understanding rainforest flora and fauna, ecosystems, processes and biological interactions;
- Applied research aimed at improved management and use of rainforest environments around the world;
- Education and communication to improve global understanding and appreciation of tropical rainforest environments; contributing to greater awareness and improved management and protection.



STUDENT GUIDELINES: APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

SUBMISSIONS

A submission form can be downloaded from skyrailfoundation.org. Submissions limited to 3,000 words should be sent to info@skyrailfoundation.org by COB Friday 15th March 2024.

The Public Fund Management Committee
Skyrail Rainforest Foundation
PO Box 888, Cairns Queensland 4870
AUSTRALIA

ASSESSMENT AND NOTIFICATION

Assessment will be undertaken by the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation Public Fund Management Committee. Applicants may be asked for additional information to support their application. The decision of the Committee will be final. Applicants will be notified of their success or otherwise in writing.

ENQUIRIES

For further information regarding submissions for funding, please contact the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation on: (07) 4038 5511 or email info@skyrailfoundation.org