

Skyrail rainforest foundation

PROTECTING TROPICAL RAINFORESTS
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



Guidelines:

Applications for Student Funding



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 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 interdependences between species
 - Effective management to minimise the impacts of rainforest tourism
 - Human benefits 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, describe, conserve or rehabilitate tropical rainforest, its flora and fauna.





STUDENT GUIDELINES: APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

Your Invitation

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

FUNDING

Skyrail Rainforest Foundation is proud to have supported research projects from a vast array of rainforest focused researchers in various disciplines for 20 years. This support has enabled many students to complete or further their studies and, ultimately, has contributed to the collective knowledge accumulated on the subject of tropical rainforests.

Eligible students can now apply to access research funding grants:

- For PhD and Post Doctoral students grants of up to \$21,000 for a term of 3 years.
- 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 \$7,000 for a one-off term.

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 is likely to enhance 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 be used multiple times, for field data collection and analysis of data, is preferred. Air travel, conferences and food will not be funded.

Reporting: Students will be required to submit periodic progress reports upon request and provide the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation with a final project summary of their research once completed. Satisfactory submission of progress reports demonstrating successful project progression and funding acquittal will be assessed by the Public Fund Management Committee. This information will form the basis of social media updates, blog articles and excerpts / quotes may also be included in news updates.

Exclusions: Conference attendance, travel and living expenses will not be funded.

FOCUS FOR CURRENT FUNDING ROUND

Each year the Public Fund Management Committee consider priority areas of research and encourages research in that focus area. For this round of funding, the Foundation would particularly encourage applications that address the following intent:

Research to help inform the protection and management of the Wet Tropics Rainforest in a changing world.

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

- Basic research into the ecology and biology of rainforest biota and their associations with ecosystem processes and functions;
- Applied research aimed at improved management and use of tropical rainforest environments;
- 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 Wednesday 26th March 2025.

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