

OUTDOOR EDUCATION FUNDING WINDOW

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT Heritage Grant Outdoor Education (OE) Proposal's – Eligibility CRITERIA

July 2017

OUTDOOR EDUCATION (OE) grants are a subset of the larger Environmental Education program. OE refers to projects and activities that provide a meaningful outdoor educational experience by developing awareness, appreciation and stewardship of Arizona's wildlife and wildlife habitats that benefits Arizona students.

The intent of OE grants is to fund projects that provide a meaningful outdoor, wildlife-focused educational experience for students while giving the greatest return for the Heritage funds invested consistent with the eligibility criteria listed below. Grant Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals to cover the costs associated with field trips to an area important to local wildlife.

For 2018 there is **\$16,000** available to support OE grant proposals. Grant applicants can request from \$500 to \$2,500 within this sub-category. Proposals can be used to cover transportation associated costs, substitute teacher costs incurred during the field trip activity; and any resource costs necessary to successfully carryout the activities. These resources might include binoculars, field guides, clipboards, dataloggers, etc. Funds cannot be used for entrance fees, food, drink, or other related costs.

A field trip itinerary with proposed field-trip date/times **MUST** also be included with the grant proposal and must detail the activities and the anticipated number of student participants.

OE Grant Award Recipients. The Department will evaluate and score all eligible OE proposals received, and recommend OE grant recipients by December 15, 2017. The Department will initiate a Grant Agreement for all OE grant award recipients. This agreement must be signed by an authorized signatory representing the recipient and the Department Director which establishes the grant effective date. OE grant award recipients will have one year from the grant effective date to plan, execute and complete the field-trip and any supporting activities. Once the grant effective date is established, Grant recipients can request OE grant award funding immediately. OE awarded funds can then be used to support grant awarded activities within the applicable Spring-2018 and/or Fall-2019 school semesters.

OE proposals must meet one or more of the Eligibility CRITERIA listed below:

CRITERION-1: Arizona Outdoor, Nature-Based Field-Trip Experience

Funds can be used to get students into nature to explore habitats and wildlife first hand, at one or more outdoor settings located throughout and within Arizona. Preference will be given to activities that:

- a. are original, curriculum creations as opposed to established programs
- b. are inquiry-based
- c. are hands-on
- d. are standards-based
- e. identify any pre and post-activities that describe how the outdoor learning experience continues beyond the individual field trip
- f. have a wildlife, wildlife habitat or outdoor recreation focus (i.e.; archery, hunting, fishing, wildlife identification, etc.)

CRITERION-2: Outdoor Programs at the Hirsch Conservation Education Area Field-Trip Funds can be used to bring students to the Department's Hirsch Conservation Education Area located at the Ben Avery Facility in north Phoenix. The program will involve an indoor live animal program and an outdoor program focused on watchable wildlife. Applicants must:

- a. ideally represent an Arizona school
- b. have participating students be between grades 3 and 12
- c. have no less than 15 and no more than 35 participating students
- d. plan the field-trip to occur during the Fall (September through December, 2018). If successful, the grant recipient must contact the Department's wildlife education coordinator Eric Proctor at eproctor@azgfd.gov as soon as possible to coordinate and schedule the date
- e. include a description of how the field trip will tie in with any pre- and post-activities instruction

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