



Urban Green Lab Scholars Program Request for Proposal

Urban Green Lab is Nashville's nonprofit improving well-being through sustainable living. Urban Green Lab is now accepting applications to its Urban Green Lab Scholars program. The program, in its first year, is funded by a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency environmental education grant.

General Guidelines and Eligibility

The purpose of the Urban Green Lab Scholars program is to expand upon the environmental education taking place via the [Mobile Lab](#) (supporting science learning with hands on sustainability education) by supporting student-led projects which have a measurable impact on one or more of five main areas: energy, water, food and agriculture, transportation, and green building. Its goal is to create lasting behavior change that protects the planet while improving the health, finances and overall well-being of participants. Furthermore, projects should advance the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's educational and environmental priorities](#).

Eligible applicants include public and private schools, universities, nonprofits, state and local government entities, and after-school organizations seeking to implement environmental education projects. Eligible applicants cannot be for-profit entities. Eligible projects provide participants with education that increases environmental literacy, encourages behavior that benefits the environment, and raises the public's awareness of actions that promote environmental stewardship.

Grant amounts are considered on a project-by-project basis, not exceeding \$5,000 per grantee. Most awards will be between \$1,000 and \$2,500. To ensure funding is available for as many worthy projects as possible, we appreciate frugal project budgets. Winning teams and projects will be recognized publicly for their achievements.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- School or community gardens
- Testing of local environmental conditions
- Long-term science experiments/research projects on energy resources, local agriculture, green technologies, etc.
- Environmental restoration projects
- School or community recycling and composting programs
- Energy or water conservation or efficiency initiatives
- University ambassadorship programs to aid teaching in the Mobile Lab (ambassadors must design an educational activity/module to be integrated into the Lab's curriculum)

Requirements

Eligible projects must:

- Address at least one educational priority and one environmental priority of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Find the EPA's educational and environmental priorities [here](#).
- Implement environmental education activities that encourage behaviors that benefit the environment, increase environmental literacy, and raise the public's awareness of actions that can be taken to promote environmental stewardship.
- Yield measurable, quantitative outcomes.

Restrictions

- Recipient organizations must operate in Davison County, TN.
- Projects must take place in Davidson County, TN.
- Projects must be completed by June 30, 2017.
- Recipients must be registered 501(c)(3) nonprofits under the IRS tax code, schools within MNPS (Metro Nashville Public Schools), or state or local governmental entities.
- Urban Green Lab will not support any organization that discriminates based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political opinion, national or ethnic origin, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran, family, marital or employment status.
- Urban Green Lab will not consider requests for individuals, for-profit organizations, federal agencies, private foundations, endowments, fundraising events or sponsorships, programs operated by religious groups for religious purposes, political organizations, 501(c)(4) or other organizations that participate in lobbying, loans, or projects whose main purpose is not environmental education.
- Recipient organizations are subject to all applicable federal grant regulations outlined in [2 CFR 200](#), which includes requirements pertaining to discrimination, expenditures and reporting.

Reporting requirements

Grantees will provide a final written report outlining progress, expenses, and the educational and environmental outcomes of the project. This will be due one month following the project's end date.

Brief progress updates will also be required based on the project timeline described in your application. Detailed financial record-keeping is required. Urban Green Lab is responsible for overseeing sub-award projects. Recipients are expected to communicate regularly, as requested by Urban Green Lab.

How to apply

Completed applications are due no later than August 30th, 2016. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until this date. Preference may be given to projects submitted early.

Applicants must:

- Submit your application online [here](#).
- Download and complete your project budget [here](#), and email to grow@urbangreenlab.org.

Contact Charlotte McGoldrick at 615-442-7072 x 102 or grow@urbangreenlab.org with any questions. To learn more about Urban Green Lab, visit www.urbangreenlab.org.