

Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges

2018-19 School Environment Grants

Guidelines

What are School Environment Grants?

The Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges School Environment Grants aim to promote the sustainable management of our natural resources and deliver projects that enable exploration of environmental sustainability in learning programs and management practices in the school.

Who can apply?

To be eligible, applicants must be located within the [Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges \(AMLR\) region](#) and be one of the following:

- ✓ primary school
- ✓ secondary school
- ✓ preschool (must have a preschool education program. Includes child care centres)

When are applications due?

Applications for the 2018-19 School Environment Grant round are **due to be submitted before midnight Friday 1 March 2019**.

When do the projects need to be completed by?

All projects will need to submit a project report **by Wednesday 13th November 2019**.

How much can be applied for?

These grants are funded by the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board through the NRM levy. Each project can apply for funding of a minimum of \$500 up to \$2000 (exc. GST). Each school may only submit one application.

What do I need to consider before applying?

- Your school must already be, or demonstrate their willingness to become, a registered [AuSSI-SA school](#) (See Frequently Asked Questions for further information).
- A member/s of your school must meet on-site with an [NRM Education Officer](#) from NRM Education to discuss the project.
- Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions below to identify whether your project is likely to be successful.

What is the application criteria?

Using an [Education for Sustainability approach](#), we are looking for projects that build a school's, and a school community's capacity, leading to an ongoing sustainable approach in one or both of the following categories:

1. **Youth Voice;** students leading sustainability projects and initiatives

- ✓ **Student skill building**
Support for students taking part in training or demonstration projects related to NRM issues to give students the skills to take action at school and in their community.
- ✓ **Information, knowledge sharing and education from a youth perspective**
Support for preschools, primary and secondary school students in the development and production of printed, electronic and web-based materials, signage, youth and community-based workshops. Grants could support the creation of drama, music, walks, competitions or other creative events. An increase in awareness of relevant NRM issues for young people and/or the community must be demonstrated.
- ✓ **Behaviour change activities to support Education for Sustainability**
Support for implementing behaviour change activities to encourage the school or wider community to change its behaviour for positive sustainability outcomes (for example pledge campaigns, signage and workshops).

2. **Outdoor learning environment;** connecting with nature through biodiversity projects and outdoor learning

- ✓ **Creation of an outdoor learning environment**
Support for the development of an outdoor space that has a primary purpose of progressing sustainability learning. This can include basic landscaping, local native plants, vegetable seedlings, fruit trees, tree guards, mulch or ponds. The outcome could be an Aboriginal traditional-use garden, food garden, butterfly garden, frog haven, outdoor classroom etc.
- ✓ **Interpretive signs and materials to promote NRM messages in an outdoor learning environment**
Support for the development of materials that strengthen the educational value of the biodiversity projects within the school and wider community. For example interpretive signage, ID charts.
- ✓ **Printing, purchase or production of educational / training materials linked to an outdoor learning environment**
Support for purchase or production and distribution of materials that strengthen sustainability in learning across the school. For example CDs, DVDs, web games, books, binoculars, macro-invertebrate nets etc.

Projects that explore the way Aboriginal perspectives can be incorporated into the project's aims or delivery will be highly regarded. The Board recognises the strong links between the concepts of Caring for Country and sustainability.

You can view information about the projects funded in 2017-18 on our [website](#).

How can I apply?

Applications must be completed and lodged via email to the DEW.AMLREnviroGrant@sa.gov.au.

You will receive an automated response when your application has been submitted.

Posted or hand written applications will not be accepted.

Applications must be received by midnight Friday 1 March 2019. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

What is the project timing and duration of successful grants?

Grant projects that are approved will begin in Term 2, 2019 and must be completed by Wednesday 13 November 2019. It is not the intention of this grant program to fund activities on a continual and ongoing basis.

How can I get more information?

For more information on the guidelines, application or process please contact Sheralee Cox, the Volunteer Program Coordinator on 8273 9100 or sheralee.cox@sa.gov.au.

For advice on planning your project, and scheduling your site visit with an NRM Education Officer, please contact your local [NRM Education Office](#).

Barossa:	8563 8436
Northern Adelaide:	8406 8289
Central Adelaide:	8234 7255
Southern Adelaide and Fleurieu:	8301 7268

Frequently asked questions

What is not covered through the School Environment Grants?

- × Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) projects
- × projects that are the responsibility of the applicant or other organisation e.g. major landscaping, maintenance, core infrastructure and garden tools
- × training and development for teaching staff (N.B. this can be offered through our NRM Education program, please contact us to find out how)
- × items that do not have a direct sustainability learning outcome e.g. outdoor musical instruments
- × the purchase of unsustainable and hard landscaping items such as river pebbles, red gum or treated sleepers, moss rocks and cement for pathways
- × the purchase of plant species (excluding vegetables and fruit trees) that are not locally native, including [pest plant](#) species.

What are the conditions for on-ground projects?

- Only projects that involve best practice environmental knowledge and expertise will be considered. This includes revegetation/biodiversity projects that use local native species sourced from local provenance seed.
- If the project is on school grounds, students must have access to the area outside of class time (for example, during recess and lunch).
- Written permission is required from landholders for work being carried out on their land with your grant application submission.

What is the project timing and duration of successful grants?

Grant projects that are approved must be completed by 13 November 2019. This includes submitting a report demonstrating the outcomes of the project. A template will be provided for this.

Can our school apply for a grant if we applied last year?

It is not the intention of this grant program to fund activities on a continual and ongoing basis. However schools can apply for a grant if they were successful during 2017-18, if their project meets the eligibility criteria and is a new project idea. Schools with overdue reports from previous years will not be considered.

I have a project idea, what next?

In the first instance, speak to your NRM Education Officer who will be able to offer project guidance. It is also a requirement of all applicants, that you meet on-site with an NRM Education Officer to discuss the project prior to submitting your application. You should also discuss your project with any potential project partners or landholders who maybe engaged as part of the project.



Will there be a grant workshop for teachers to attend?

Several grant workshops will be offered to assist in application writing and project planning. Workshops will be offered during Term 4, 2018 and Term 1, 2019. Workshops will also offer an opportunity to see examples of schools that have successfully completed projects.

What is an AuSSI-SA school?

The Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative - South Australia provides a framework for schools or preschools to develop a culture of sustainability with their community.

AuSSI-SA is underpinned by the principles of Education for Sustainability (EfS) which is about learning for change and developing the knowledge, values and skills needed for leading sustainable lives.

What if our school is not currently an AuSSI-SA school and wants to apply?

All applicants must already be or demonstrate their willingness to become a registered AuSSI-SA school. From previous years experience, schools that demonstrate their commitment to an Education for Sustainability approach achieve the best outcomes from their project.

To learn more about becoming an AuSSI-SA school, contact your NRM Education Office or to register your school or preschool with AuSSI-SA, visit the [Department for Education SA](#) website.

What is the grant assessment process?

This is a competitive grant scheme. Applications will be assessed and ranked by a panel to ensure submissions meet the grant criteria. Submissions that describe how they align with the criteria and provide succinct answers to the application questions will have the best chance of funding.

It is anticipated that successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing in April 2019.

What will the assessment panel look for?

Grants will be offered to projects that:

- ✓ have been planned in consultation with an NRM Education Officer
- ✓ demonstrate a commitment to embedding [Education for Sustainability](#) into the culture, learning and practices of the school
- ✓ are linked to learning in the school
- ✓ encourage participation and partnerships with other groups and organisations to share responsibility and deliver the best possible NRM outcomes
- ✓ will be supported and maintained into the future
- ✓ demonstrate high value for money (in outcomes, partnerships and community engagement).
- ✓ contribute to the achievement of the region's 20 year targets (refer to Appendix 1 below)



Key steps in preparing and delivering your grant project

Step	Key things to do	Timeframe
1	<p>Discuss project ideas on-site, with a NRM Education Officer prior to completing your application form.</p> <p>This should ensure the project is more likely to address the priorities of the applicant and the AMLR NRM Board, and identifies the greatest number of opportunities to ensure a successful partnership.</p>	Term 4, 2018 – early Term 1, 2019
2	Attend a grant workshop to learn more about the School Environment Grants. Dates and locations to be advised.	Term 4 2018 Term 1 2019
3	<p>Complete and submit a typed grant application form for assessment.</p> <p>Make sure you upload the required attachments and supporting info e.g. landholder approvals, plant lists, site maps.</p>	By midnight Friday 1 March 2019
4	The project will be assessed against a set of criteria by an assessment panel consisting of a Board representative, an independent community member and staff from Natural Resources AMLR.	March 2019
5	<p>Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified of the panel decision in writing.</p> <p>Successful applicants will be asked to fill out and return a <i>Grant Agreement</i> document and submit an invoice.</p>	April 2019
6	Project implementation commences and proceeds against the tasks in the grant application.	From Term 2
7	Submit the <i>Final Report and photos</i> – in accordance with the grant agreement. A report template will be sent to successful applicants.	By 13 November 2019



Appendix 1

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board's 20 year regional targets	
Target	By 2028
Target 1	The region will have the system capacity to harvest up to 35GL of stormwater and 50GL of wastewater per annum
Target 2	Aquatic ecosystem and groundwater condition is maintained or improved
Target 3	All water resources used within sustainable yield (allowing for variability)
Target 5	Maintain or increase the productive capacity of agriculture
Target 6	Land condition for primary production improved by 15%
Target 7	Condition and function of ecosystems (terrestrial, riparian) recovered from current levels
Target 8	Extent of functional ecosystems (coastal, estuarine, terrestrial, riparian) increased to 30% of the region (excluding urban areas)
Target 9	Improvement in conservation prospects of native species (terrestrial, aquatic, marine) from current levels
Target 10	Land based impacts on coastal, estuarine and marine processes reduced from current levels
Target 11	Halt in the decline of seagrass, reef and other coast, estuarine and marine habitats and a trend towards restoration
Target 12	All coast, estuarine and marine water resources meet water quality guidelines to protect defined environmental values
Target 13	Increase participation in Natural Resource Management activities by 20%

*T4 (Average annual cost of flood damage reduced) removed after review and evaluation of targets.

