



## BACKGROUND

The Conservation Education Grant Program has an open and revolving application cycle. The program supports forestry and natural resource educational program assistance to pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and their educators, both in classroom and outdoor settings. Supported activities can be part of a structured curriculum, as well as informal learning opportunities.



Source-funding is USFS State, Private, and Tribal Forestry dollars and State of Montana funds.



Projects must be in alignment with program authorities, which are outlined in the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, as amended.

## CONTACT

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# Conservation Education Grant Program

## PROJECTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING INTENT:

To receive funding, proposals must contribute to meaningful natural resource education experiences for youth or increase and improve the capacity of natural resource professionals, volunteers, or organizations to deliver quality educational experiences to youth audiences.

- Examples of qualifying activities:
  - Natural resource education for pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students,
  - Facilitator training activities and associated costs,
  - Professional development in the field of youth conservation education, including travel expenses,
  - Costs associated with hosting youth educational activities or events
  - Funding to supplant existing salary or operating expenses is NOT eligible.

## GRANT AMOUNT & REVIEW

- Award requests should be \$3,000 or less. Funds must be expended within one calendar year of the date of approval. Exceptions may be granted by the program manager for compelling circumstances.
- Application period opens January 15 each year. Applications are reviewed and processed on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are expended.
- Generally, where applications that have a forestry component will be prioritized.
- Expenses must be directly billable to, or payable by the DNRC. In some cases, funds may be subawarded based upon the program manager's discretion.

## MATCH

- No match required; however, a 25% match (calculated as percentage of total grant funds awarded) is encouraged. Match-source funds can be non-federal cash or in-kind contributions.

A portion of the funding for this program is a federal award of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, to the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Forestry Division. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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