



## Environmental Education Request for Proposals Now Open

Gray Family Foundation's (Gray FF) Environmental Education program seeks to promote the inclusion of quality environmental education in formal and informal K-12 environments to increase opportunities for youth to connect with and learn in the outdoors.



Gray FF seeks proposals that stimulate or promote the teaching of environmental education in formal and informal K-12 educational environments to increase outdoor experiences for youth.

In 2020, we are offering three options through our Environmental Education grant program:

- **Capacity-Building:** We will consider capacity-building grant requests from \$5,000-\$20,000 focused on advancing equity in environmental education.
- **Youth Field Experiences:** We will consider programmatic grant requests from \$5,000-\$25,000 per year to support field experiences for 3rd through 8th grade youth.
- **Educator Training and Professional Development:** We will consider programmatic grant requests from \$5,000-\$25,000 per year to support educator professional development.

Gray FF is interested in reviewing proposals for a range of funding levels that best serve the specific needs of your program. Gray FF will award funds to the strongest eligible projects regardless of project type and encourage organizations to apply for the type of funding that will best serve their efforts.

Proposals are due December 2nd.

Recognizing the need for developing effective, shared messaging that communicates the powerful benefits of time spent outdoors, the [Blue Sky Funders Forum](#), including Gray Family Foundation, partnered with funders, practitioners, and researchers to craft a shared narrative for the field, an engaging story to reshape how people think about and prioritize the outdoors and its benefits. The goal of the narrative is to bring more resources and action to work that increases equitable access to the benefits of time spent in nature.

In October 2019, Blue Sky launched **Rethink Outside**, a national campaign based on the shared narrative. The campaign offers funders and practitioners research, tools, and strategies to tell a new story and engage new partners to bring the promise of healthy communities to all. Gray Family Foundation is excited to partner with Rethink Outside in our efforts to engage people of Oregon as active stewards of our communities and natural environments. Learn more at [RethinkOutside.org](#), where you can access communications tools and resources, and make a pledge to join the movement to open doors to positive, rewarding experiences outdoors for all people.

## Upcoming Grant Deadlines

**Gray FF Environmental Education:** Grants to support schools and organizations providing outdoor field experiences for 3rd-8th grade students, as well as educator professional development, planning, and capacity-building.

**Updated RFP Posted & Application Opens:** October 1, 2019

**Application Deadline:** December 1, 2019

[Read more](#)

**East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District Partners in**

**Conservation:** Grants to support conservation projects and conservation education in the District. Projects must show a clear public benefit in one or more of the following: habitat restoration or watershed health, soil erosion prevention/control, soil health, water quality, water conservation, and/or environmental education.

**Application Opens:** November 1, 2019

**Application Deadline:** December 16, 2019

[Read more](#)

**Gray FF Outdoor School Program:** Planning grants for schools or districts and outdoor school providers, and program grants to schools or student groups currently ineligible to apply for OSU Extension outdoor school funding.

**Letters of Interest Deadline:** January 15, 2020

[Read more](#)

**NOAA Office of Education Environmental Literacy Grants:** Grants for projects designed to build environmental literacy of K-12 students and the public so they are knowledgeable of the ways in which their community can become more resilient to extreme weather.

**Deadlines vary by project** (November 25, February 11)

[Read more](#)

[Learn more about our grantmaking](#)



## Grantee Story: Trash for Peace

The vision of Trash for Peace, a Portland-based nonprofit, centers around rescuing landfill-bound materials and using them for creative experiences that encourage strong communities.

[Read the full grantee story>>](#)



*The Gray Family Foundation is founded on the belief that fostering an understanding and appreciation of our natural world is a crucial part of a child's education. By supporting programs such as Outdoor School, geography education and professional development for teachers, we seek to give Oregon students a greater understanding of the world outside their classroom. Learn more at [www.grayff.org](http://www.grayff.org)*

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