

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS 2019

The Field Naturalists Society of South Australia Inc. (FNSSA) established the Lirabenda Endowment Fund (LEF) with the intention of making available research Grants to encourage and promote research into the biota and natural environment of South Australia. The Lirabenda Research Grants Committee considers all applications for grants from the Lirabenda Endowment Fund with this intention in mind.

The following are general guidelines to provide applicants with information on projects that the Lirabenda Endowment Fund is likely to support:

1. Projects that increase knowledge and understanding of native species and their habitats within South Australia.
2. Projects relating to management and conservation of South Australian species and their environment.
3. Projects that investigate factors relating to declining or threatened species of animals, plants and fungi. Preference is given to species that are endemic to South Australia.
4. Projects leading to improved management of species that cause environmental damage in South Australia.

Applications are invited from any person engaged in research that fits the criteria for selection including from research institutions for supervised project funding at the Honours Degree, Masters Degree and PhD levels and for projects conducted by researchers at South Australian Research Institutes and by individual researchers.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Read carefully before submitting your application for a Lirabenda Research Grant as applications which do not fit the Guidelines will not be considered for funding:

- (a) Application forms should be signed by the applicant [who must also be the person who will undertake the research project] and a supervisor [when required]. Applications should be lodged by email by sending signed copies to the two email addresses provided before 5.00 pm on the closing date Friday 14th December 2018. Receipt of applications will be acknowledged by return email before Monday 17th December. If this acknowledgement is not received the applicant should phone the co-ordinator immediately.
- (b) Lirabenda Endowment Fund grants are for one year only. If the research proposed is part of a larger study the applicant must describe a project including a portion of the research with a one-year time-frame.
- (c) Funds are primarily to cover field expenses for researchers to pursue their study. Expenses involved in laboratory work to consolidate data collected will also be eligible for funding. Items of equipment (e.g. tools and apparatus) may be funded at the discretion of the Committee but salaries and attendance at conferences will not be considered.
- (d) It is expected that a summary of the results of projects and research will either be published in the FNSSA journal *The South Australian Naturalist* or provided by oral presentation at a meeting of the FNSSA.
- (e) The FNSSA reserves the right to publish on its website results of research conducted while the researcher is in receipt of a Lirabenda Research Grant and successful applicants will also have an opportunity to promote their projects on the website.
- (f) All successful applicants will be contacted by a member of the FNSSA who will be a liaison contact during the period of the Grant. The recipient of a Lirabenda Research Grant will be expected to inform this contact person of any difficulties relating to the project.
- (g) Research conducted on vertebrate animals will require approval from an Animal or Wildlife Ethics Committee. All research requires an appropriate Permit to Undertake Scientific Research from the Department of Environment and Water (DEW) before undertaking any research in a National Park, Conservation Park, Recreation Park, Game Reserve, Regional Reserve or Wilderness Protection Area or on any species of plant or animal protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.
- (h) All project leaders and researchers must ensure contact is made with the relevant District National Parks and Wildlife Manager before beginning research in a National Parks and Wildlife Act or Wilderness Protection Act reserve and maintain liaison with nominated regional and district staff when undertaking fieldwork.

- (i) Applicants should indicate clearly the parts of their project for which they are seeking LEF support. Any funding that is being sought from any other grant-giving body must be declared on the Lirabenda Endowment Fund application form.
- (j) All successful Lirabenda Research Grant recipients of funding from the Lirabenda Endowment Fund must enter into an agreement confirming the conditions of the Grant.
- (k) When a signed Letter of Agreement is received by the Society the Grant will be paid in full to the institution or organization stated in the Application Form. In special circumstances a Grant may be paid to an individual.
- (l) Following completion of the Project and no later than 28th February 2020 [unless special circumstances have been approved] a financial report, showing how the Grant was spent and disclosing any unspent funds, must be forwarded to the Secretary by post or email [see address below]. Students enrolling to commence a project in July may be granted an extension to report after the following June.
- (m) All reports must acknowledge the FNSSA Lirabenda Endowment Fund. A digital copy of the FNSSA logo will be emailed to successful recipients
- (n) Successful student applicants will receive one year's membership of the Field Naturalists Society of SA.

GENERAL NOTES

- The Lirabenda Research Grants Committee may decide to make no awards in a particular year.
- The maximum amount available for all grants in any one year will be determined by the FNSSA Council before applications are called.
- For 2019 individual grants will not exceed \$3,000.
- Late applications will not be considered.
- Successful applicants will be notified by email in early February 2019 and must return a completed and signed Letter of Agreement by email or post by Friday 8th March 2019 or they may forfeit the grant.
- The decisions of the Lirabenda Research Grants Committee will be final and no further discussion with unsuccessful applicants will be entered into by the FNSSA Council and Committee.
- Previous applicants are encouraged to apply again but for projects shortlisted and deemed of equal merit/value by the Lirabenda Research Grants Committee, preference will be given to a project that has not been funded by a Lirabenda Endowment Fund Grant in the previous year.

Final signed applications on the appropriate form should be emailed [subject: LEF Grants] to:

The LEF Co-ordinator Ashley Walker
Email: lirabenda@yandex.com

And also to
Jenny Meador
Email: jmeador@chariot.net.au

For General Enquiries contact Ashley Walker:
Email: lirabenda@yandex.com
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