

Arkansas Audubon Society Trust

Request for Proposals

The Arkansas Audubon Society Trust is now accepting applications for grants. The Trust funds research, education, and conservation projects. Our emphasis is on conservation of Arkansas birds but we will consider other taxa and natural resource issues. We fund individuals, undergraduate and graduate students, nonprofits, and government agencies. The average award is \$500, and the maximum rarely exceeds \$1,200. Proposal guidelines are as follows.

- (1) **Due date is 15 September 2025.** Proposals will be reviewed at the AAS Trust meeting around 20 October, and applicants notified shortly thereafter.
- (2) Requests for funds should be presented in the form of a proposal limited to no more than 5 pages single-spaced, 12-pt. font, organized as follows: (a) Header (i.e., not a whole page) including project title, your name, affiliation, degree pursuing (if applicable), address, phone number, and e-mail; give an address where a check, made out to the applicant, can reach you and be deposited promptly. (b) A description of your project: introduction, hypothesis, methods, as applicable. (c) If you have previously received Trust funds for this project, briefly describe preliminary results and whether you are on track to meet your objectives. (d) Whether IACUC approval, permits, landowner permission, as applicable, have been obtained or applied for; if collecting specimens of species of conservation concern, justify your reason and state what impact this could have on the population. (e) Itemized entire budget. (f) Of the entire budget explicitly state the amount requested from the Trust, describe what the funds will be used for, and demonstrate your need for this funding. (g) List the dollar amount and source of any support you have secured or that is pending, including salary or stipend in the form of assistantships, fellowships, grants, etc; if you don't have salary support, state that. For mileage, use the AR State rate of 52 cents/mile. Literature cited, tables, and figures are not included in the 5-page limit.
- (3) Attach to your proposal a 1-page letter of support from your professor, supervisor, or a person familiar with you and your project. If you can't merge your proposal and letter into a single PDF, submit them separately.
- (4) We pay particular attention to hypotheses, objectives, study design, and methodology. They should be clear, sound, and realistic. A person not familiar with your topic should be able to understand your study.
- (5) For projects outside the U.S., funding can be used only inside the US. For example, plane tickets – No; lodging or field assistants overseas – No; equipment purchased or lab analyses conducted in the US – Yes. Please include both foreign and domestic expenses in your budget.
- (6) **Apply online.** Upload your proposal and letter in PDF format at <https://arbirds.org/Trust/Application.aspx>. After submitting, the page will reload and show text in red that you have successfully applied. If you do not have online access, a hard copy can be mailed to *Dr. Ragupathy Kannan, Chair, Arkansas Audubon Society Trust, Department of Biology, University of Arkansas—Fort Smith, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72913*, by the deadline.
- (7) All grant recipients are required to report to the Trust by June 30 and December 31 of each year regarding how the money has been spent, until it is all spent. Email reports to the trust Chair at ragupathy.kannan@uafs.edu
- (8) Grantees are expected to publish a short report about their project in the AAS Newsletter, *Arkansas Birds*.