Guidelines:
Applications for Funding Students
The Skyrail Rainforest Foundation has been established with the primary objective of raising and distributing funds to support tropical rainforest research and education projects. Monies raised are paid into the Skyrail Rainforest Research Fund, which is administered by a Public Fund Management Committee, consisting of representatives with environmental management, research, education and business experience.

Our objectives

The research objectives of the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation are:

1. To establish, conduct and carry on research and education programmes to assist the community in understanding and appreciating the value of tropical rainforests throughout the world.

2. To support the research, study and investigation of:
   
   i. rare and endangered rainforest flora and fauna;
   ii. biology and ecology of rainforest canopies;
   iii. the interdependence between species;
   iv. effective management to minimise the impact of rainforest tourism;
   v. human benefit from rainforest biological resources;
   vi. the downstream impacts of rainforests;
   vii. Biodiversity.

3. To support better education of the wider community, by communicating the results of relevant research including:
   
   i. the production of management guides and best practice literature for rainforest managers;
   ii. educational resources, computer websites and lesson kits for schools;
   iii. translations of existing educational material for non-English speaking people;
   iv. seminars, publications and conferences for the general community.

4. To assist with projects where the primary objectives are to protect, present, conserve or rehabilitate tropical rainforest, its flora and fauna.

Our Invitation

Organisations or individuals are invited to submit applications for funding for projects that meet the Foundation’s objectives.
Funding
Skyrail Rainforest Foundation is celebrating 10 years supporting research projects from a vast array of rainforest focussed genres. This support has enabled many students to complete or further their studies and ultimately, has contributed to the collective knowledge gathered on the subject of tropical rainforests. Eligible students can now apply for access to up to $5,000 for PhD and Research Masters projects and up to $2,000 for Honours projects, Graduate Diploma in Research Methods projects and other Masters Course work where there is a strong research component. Students will share their progress from time to time and also provide a summary of their research with the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation once complete, which may feature in local news articles or on social media.

Well conceived projects, meeting the objectives of the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation and focus for the current round of funding, demonstrating scientific rigour and innovative research and addressing gaps in or adding to current knowledge, will be viewed favourably. Special consideration will be given to collaborative or partnership approaches, where Skyrail Rainforest Foundation funding enhances the outcomes and intrinsic value of a project. The most beneficial use of funds such as for the purchase of minor items of equipment that can provide multiple use, field data collection and analysis of data is preferred. Air travel, conferences and food will not be funded.

Focus for current funding round
Projects should align with the foundation objectives of supporting:

- Pure research aimed at understanding rainforest flora and fauna, ecosystems, processes and biological interactions
- Applied research aimed at improved management and use of rainforest environments around the world
- Education and communication to improve global understanding and appreciation of tropical rainforest environments, contributing to greater awareness and improved management and protection.

The funding in this round may favour projects with a focus on:

- Ecosystem dynamics, contemporary and traditional approaches to forest management, conservation and management of rainforest boundaries and ecotones including climatic influences
- Opportunities for use of lessons from community (citizenship) science, knowledge and learning
- Imparting understanding of tropical rainforests through education, community outreach and tourism

Submissions
A submission form can be downloaded from skyrailfoundation.org or obtained by emailing info@skyrailfoundation.org. Submissions are limited to 3,000 words to be sent by Friday 15th May 2015 to:

The Public Fund Management Committee
Skyrail Rainforest Foundation
PO Box 888, Cairns QLD 4870
AUSTRALIA

Assessment and Notification
Assessment will be undertaken by the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation Public Fund Management Committee. Applicants may be asked for additional information to support their application. The decision of the committee will be final. Applicants will be notified of their success or otherwise in writing.

Enquiries
For further information regarding submissions for funding, please contact the Skyrail Rainforest Foundation on 4042 2200 or email info@skyrailfoundation.org