

Outdoor learning travel grant scheme guideline

What will it fund?

The outdoor learning travel grant scheme aim is to assist in travel costs for Schools, voluntary and community groups in Scotland, this includes groups and intermediaries who support and work with people experiencing some form of disadvantage e.g. on account of their age, gender, race, health, disability, social or economic reasons etc.

To undertake at least one of the following activities:

- Take place in the Cairngorms National Park including the nine National Nature Reserves.
- Raise awareness and understanding of the Cairngorms National Park.
- Involve Ranger Services and NNR staff in the National Park where possible.
- Help deliver Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning experiences. See Resources section below for more information and contacts

Priority will be given to:

- Schools and groups from areas of multiple deprivation including urban areas near to the National Park such as Inverness, Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen.
- Those who have not visited the National Park or worked with a National Park ranger service previously.
- Groups that support people with disabilities, young people, ethnic minorities and those who experience economic disadvantage or health inequality

How much is the fund worth?

Please note that due to limited funds and a high demand for this grant scheme, the budget has been capped for each quarter, so that applications can be considered throughout the whole year

This travel grant scheme may fund up to 75% of the total transport costs for visits based on the number of criteria met. Up to a maximum of £300.

- Eligible costs apply to transport to and from school or group meeting place to Cairngorms National Park e.g. bus or minibus hire. Only one trip per school is eligible per year.
- Grants cannot be awarded retrospectively. You must apply for your grant and it must be agreed **before** your visit.

When will fund be received if our application is successful

Payments will only be made to the School/Group applying for funding support and not to any individual or third party (e.g. Coach hire companies)

- Payments will normally be made by BACS transfer directly to the account. Or by cheque if necessary.
- Proof of costs must be provided either as a pro-forma invoice from the company or submission of receipts for travel fares (e.g. rail/bus tickets). Evaluation Applicants should complete an evaluation form with their claim: summarising activities undertaken (including pre and post visit), what they have learned about the National Park, what difference the travel grant made, and include photographs (with permissions for CNPA use).

Application process

1. Decide where you will visit and who will support your group e.g. ranger service (see below) and date.
2. Contact transport provider for estimated costs.
3. Complete application form and send to CNPA learning@cairngorms.co.uk
4. You will be sent confirmation of your grant of up to £300 (amount will depend on how you meet the funding priorities).
5. To claim your grant following your visit, submit the following to CNPA:
 - A copy of the transport company invoice / receipts
 - Your completed evaluation form (download from website)
 - Digital photographs of your visit (with permission for CNPA to use in promotional materials)
 - Covering letter /email requesting payment of your grant (quoting CNPA's grant offer)
6. You will then receive payment of the grant.

How to contact the fund

If you would like any help with this process, please contact: learning@cairngorms.co.uk
Alan Smith Outdoor Learning & Engagement Manager, Cairngorms National Park Authority, 14 The Square, Grantown-on-Spey, PH26 3HG Tel: 01479 870518

Resources to help plan your visit

You are encouraged to make use of one of the 12 ranger services in the Park, to get the most out of your visit. A list of ranger services can be found at: [Cairngorms | Ranger services](#)

National Nature Reserves

There are nine NNRs in the Park which protect an amazing range of wildlife and landscapes, where you can base your visit and learning experience. Find these NNRs at: [Home | Scotland's National Nature Reserves](#)

Forests and woodlands

Discover the sights, sounds and experiences of the forest at Forestry Commission Scotland sites in the Park, including Glenmore, Inshriach, Laggan, Glen Doll, Cambus O'May, See: [Home - Forestry and Land Scotland | Forestry and Land Scotland](#)

John Muir Award

Your visit to the Park may well fit in with gaining a John Muir Award, an environmental award scheme that focuses on wild places such as the National Park. Find out more at: [Engagement Initiative | John Muir Award](#)

Websites

Cairngorms Learning Zone is a web-based learning resource for teachers and students but will appeal to anyone who wants to find out more about the Cairngorms. Use it for your pre and post visits to the Park! [Cairngorms Learning Zone - Outdoor Learning Services and Information](#)

The Outdoor Learning Directory is a portal to various types of support for outdoor learning provided by Scottish public bodies including the National Park Authorities, SNH and FCS. www.outdoorlearningdirectory.com

For more information and ideas about visiting the National Park, go to: www.cairngorms.co.uk or www.visitcairngorms.com