

TRU Sustainability Research Grant for Students (2023-2024)

What is the award for?

The purpose of this award is to encourage interdisciplinary research and expand knowledge of sustainability and sustainable development and practices, defined in terms of TRU's four pillars of sustainability: environmental, social, economic and cultural.

There will be four awards during the 2023-2024 school year each of \$2500.

Do I qualify to apply?

In order to be considered for a Sustainability Award, you must;

- Be a full-time student at TRU enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program;
- Have completed a minimum of 60 credits of undergraduate study at the time of application;
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students who do not meet the GPA requirement may apply but must include an explanation of the circumstances leading to a lower GPA;
- Have a faculty member who is willing to mentor you and guide your project; and
- Have not previously received a similar Sustainability Award.

How do I get started?

If you are interested in applying, first speak with a faculty mentor. You will need a faculty member to agree to be your Faculty Mentor to supervise and guide your application and project.

Applications are adjudicated by an internal committee who will advise applicants and their mentors of the results within one month of the application deadline. The Office of Research and Graduate Studies will contact successful applicants with further details on the award.

What do I need to do to apply?

The application includes (total of 4 pages max.):

- Research project: An outline of the short term and long-term goals of the project (max one page)
- Project description, including justification for the research, methodology, anticipated outcomes, plans for knowledge dissemination. (max two pages)
- Proposed Budget, Justification & Timeline (max one page)
 - The proposed budget and timelines are required to determine the feasibility of the project and to ensure proposed expenses are eligible.
 - A maximum of 16% of the grant award (\$400) can be allocated as a stipend. Remaining costs must be reconciled against associated receipts that pay for the

- direct costs of research. The faculty supervisor must confirm in the final report that all costs are properly reconciled.
- If costs outlined in the submitted budget change more than 20%, then the change must be approved in writing by the TRU Sustainability Office.

The application must be supported by:

- Letter of Support from a faculty mentor who has agreed to supervise the project
- Unofficial Transcript(s)

The application **deadline is March 25, 2024**. Hard copy applications will not be accepted.

Students are strongly encouraged to discuss their research project with Warren Asuchak and James Gordon from the TRU Sustainability Office before submitting: wasuchak@tru.ca; jgordon@tru.ca. This is a voluntary discussion to help members of the Sustainability Office learn what applicants are proposing, and identify opportunities for alignment with existing initiatives.

Terms of the Award

Two installments:

1 st installment issued at time of approval	\$1500
2 nd installment issued upon submission of final report	\$1000

The funding is available for 12 months with a final research report due 2 months after completion of project, that details the findings of the research. This report will be made publicly available through TRUSpace: TRU's open access digital archive.

Other Dates and Deadlines:

The application deadline is March 25, 2024, however, applicants are welcome to submit a voluntary Pre-Proposal of their project (500-word summary) by February 19, 2024 in order to receive feedback. The Sustainability Office aims provide results within 3 weeks of the deadline.

Pre-Proposals can be emailed, with the subject line *TRU Sustainability Research Grant for Students*, to: jgordon@tru.ca AND sustain@tru.ca.