

JOIN THE GRANTS REVIEW TEAM!

Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences grants

Metro is recruiting people to review Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences grants. Members of the committee will help to recommend up to \$700,000 in grants to community organizations and groups seeking to support and create partnerships in local communities. These grants advance resiliency to climate change and racial equity, diversity and inclusion goals through nature education or outdoor experience programs serving school-aged children to elders, job training and life skills for youth, and outreach and engagement programs for residents from around the region.

It's important to have a broad diversity of experience and backgrounds represented. Grant applicants are eligible to serve on the review committee; reviewers must disclose any conflicts of interest. The Metro Council makes all final funding decisions.

To apply, send a simple email and attach a resume or experience summary describing your relevant professional and/or lived background and experience. Metro staff will begin reviewing committee applications in **April, 2022**.

For more information about the Nature Neighborhoods nature education grants, please see oregonmetro.gov/grants.

INTERESTED IN REVIEWING GRANTS?

Metro is looking for people with backgrounds in nature education, outdoor experiences, climate resiliency, cultural programs, mentorship and job skill development, racial equity, diversity and inclusion, community partnership development, philanthropy, grant management or related fields. Stipends available upon request.

In selecting members for this committee, Metro seeks a mix of members who bring experience or interest in:

- Reviewing or writing grant proposals and offering suggestions on ways to strengthen programs
- Projects that involve a wide range of partners and funding
- Projects that engage diverse community groups

GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE DUTIES

- Serve a one-year term with an opportunity to be reappointed.
- Review approximately 30 pre-applications in **May**, and 20 full applications in **August**.
- Evaluate applications based on the information submitted; the purpose, goals and evaluation criteria; and the review committee's professional and collective judgment.
- Attend two review committee meetings (4 hours each).
 - **Pre-application review committee meeting: Tuesday, June 14th, 1p.m. to 5p.m.**
 - **Full application review committee meeting: Tuesday, September 13th, 1p.m. to 5p.m.**
 - Meetings will be either fully remote or hybrid remote and in person, depending on pandemic safety considerations.
 - Any committee member who would prefer to attend remotely will be accommodated.

- Develop funding recommendations together with other review committee members.
- Provide feedback to staff about ways to strengthen the grant program administration and outcomes.

EMAIL STATEMENT OF INTEREST AND A RESUME

To apply for the nature education grant review committee, please briefly explain why you are interested in participating in the review committee and attach a resume or experience summary which details your individual background in an email to the Grants Program Manager, Karissa Lowe, karissa.lowe@oregonmetro.gov. Metro staff will begin reviewing applications in **April, 2022**.

Why are you interested in serving on the nature education and outdoor experiences grant review committee?

- **Experience:** What lived and/or professional experience, knowledge and skills will help you to evaluate whether community organizations and groups meet the grant purpose to improve water quality, restore fish and wildlife habitat, or connect people to nature and the goals of building greater resiliency to climate change and cultural, environmental and economic equity? What is your connection to and involvement with the community and racial equity, diversity, and inclusion work?
- **Conflict of interest:** Are you or your immediate family a staff member or board member of an organization that plans to submit a grant application? Grant applicants are eligible to serve on the review committee, but will excuse themselves from the scoring and the committee discussion of that grant (pre) application.
- **Availability:** In order to serve on the grant review committee, you must attend the two grant review meetings for four hours each at the Metro Regional Center in Portland. Are you available to do so on **Tuesday, June 3, 2022 and Tuesday, August 30, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.?**

WHAT'S THE TIMELINE?

April 2022	Availability of grant funds announced
May 17, 2022, 4 p.m.	Nature education pre-applications due to Metro
May 2022	Review committee reads and scores pre-applications
June 14, 2022, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Grant review committee pre-application meeting
June 2022	Successful pre-applications invited to submit full applications
August 9, 2022	Full applications due to Metro
July – August 2020	Review committee reads and scores full applications
September 13, 2020, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Grant review committee full application meeting
September 2022	Grant awards announced
September or October 2022	Metro Council votes on grant awards