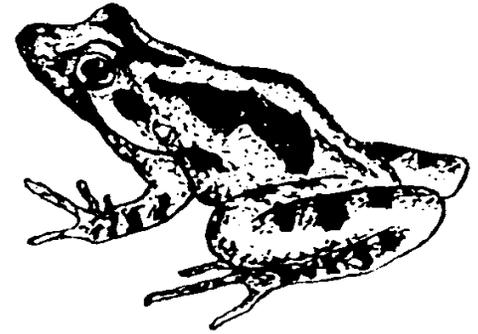




## Applying for a Fee Waiver

Everglades National Park can be a powerful source of inspiration and learning. Many groups visiting the park have discovered the unique opportunities the Everglades can afford.

The park commonly receives requests to waive admission fees for visiting groups. When possible, the park may issue fee waivers to educational or scientific institutions providing proper documentation. The procedures for obtaining such a waiver are outlined below for your convenience.



### Applying for a Fee Waiver



Bona fide educational or scientific institutions may apply for an entrance fee waiver. To qualify, applications must contain the following:

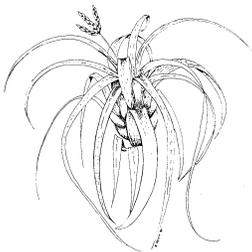
1. Current, official documentation of recognition as an educational institution by a Federal, State, or local government entity, or other evidence attesting to educational status (i.e., accreditation letter or educational tax exempt letter). It is insufficient to merely state or imply this on official letterhead. **Your fee waiver will not be processed without this documentation.**

2. Copy the application on the reverse of this page onto your institutional letterhead. Complete the application and send it along with your official recognition as an educational institution.

3. There must be a direct relationship between the visit purpose and the use of the park. The visit must be to study some aspect/resource specific to the park. A general statement to the effect that the visit is for "educational purposes" is insufficient by itself. An explanation of what the educational purpose entails and how it is related to park resources is required. Course outlines, lesson plans, or a copy of the curriculum meets this requirement.



### Protecting the Park



Review the following rules and safety precautions so participants will know what is expected of them.

*Respect the wildlife:* Loud noises are discouraged. Throwing objects at, or other harassment of park animals is strictly prohibited.

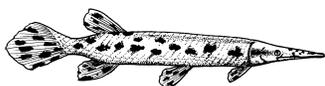
*Respect the home and food sources of the wildlife:* Please leave all plants, rocks, shells, or other natural objects in the park. Place litter where it belongs.

*Respect each other:* Running, pushing, or yelling are not allowed on trails. Stay with your class; always have adults lead and bring up the end of the line.

*Respect the right of others to enjoy their national park:* Loud noises and other disruptive behavior on the trails can spoil the experience for other visitors. **Buses and other loud motor vehicles are asked to turn off their engines when parked at trail heads.**

Groups that do not comply with park regulations will be contacted by a ranger and future fee waiver requests may be denied.

### Fee Waiver Entitlements



Fee waivers entitle the entrance of **one chaperone for every ten students (or one chaperone for every five for special needs groups)**. Any additional chaperones will be required to pay the \$5.00 per person fee for the Shark Valley or Main Entrance Station.

Applications must be received 2 weeks in advance of the anticipated visit. **Fee waivers will not be given at the entrance stations and refunds will not be granted.**

If the application is approved, the group's official will

receive a copy of the application with an approval signature. Each vehicle must present a copy of the approved fee waiver at the park entrance station. **Fees will not be waived for vehicles who do not have a copy of the waiver.**

**The entrance fee waiver does not entitle your group to any special ranger presentations.**

# Application for Educational Fee Waiver

Copy onto institutional letterhead and complete.

Email, Mail or Fax application to: Everglades National Park, Attention: Tenia Fleming – CRO  
Tenia\_Fleming@nps.Gov

40001 State Road 9336, Homestead, FL 33034

Fax: (305) 242-7716 Tel: 305-242-7734

-You must have this fee waiver in your possession when arriving at the park's entrance station.

Each vehicle in the group must present a copy of the approved application.

**Name of Institution**

**Address**

**Official in charge of group** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Students** \_\_\_\_\_ **Where you will enter the Park** \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are going to Shark Valley and plan on taking the Tram Tour, you must contact the Tram Office at 305-221-8455 for reservations and prices.**

**Number of Faculty/Chaperones** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Vehicles** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Arrival** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time of Arrival** \_\_\_\_\_ **# of Days in Park** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Course Title, Catalog Number, and Description or Grade Level and Subject Matter**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Explain the educational purpose of the trip. What aspect/resource of the park is to be studied:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. I understand that the Code of Federal Regulations allows Fee Waivers only for educational and/or scientific institutions that are using the park for educational purposes. I hereby certify that the above detailed trip meets these requirements and therefore request that fees be waived. Current official documentation of recognition of affiliation as an educational institution by a Federal, State or local government entity, or other evidence attesting to educational status is attached (e.g. *accreditation letter, educational tax exempt letter*).**

**Name & Signature of official In Charge of Group**

**Telephone**

**Title**

**Fax**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE APPROVAL**

**Required Documentation**

**Type** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Park Official:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Rules to know and follow when visiting Everglades National Park**

The park is a novel and exciting environment for students. Providing a firm framework of rules during a pre-visit discussion will make enforcement during the field trip much easier. These rules will make the experience more enjoyable for your group as well as for other park visitors.

\*Respect the wildlife - Making loud noises, throwing objects at, feeding, or other harassment of animals in the park is illegal. Remember these are wild animals. It is always a good idea to stay at least 10 to 15 feet away from them.

\*Respect the plants - Do not pick flowers, or break leaves and branches off plants. The collecting of pine cones, feathers, or other natural objects is not allowed in the Everglades, or any national park.

\*Respect the right of others to enjoy Everglades National Park - Loud noises and disruptive behavior interfere with other visitors. Make sure groups stay on one side of the trail so that other visitors can easily walk by.

\*Respect each other - Running and pushing can lead to injuries. When the ranger or teacher is talking, or a student is answering a question, everyone should listen.

\*Remind the students to always stay with their group. Each group should be led by a teacher or ranger with an adult chaperone at the end.

\*When entering the bookstores, please limit the number of students to six with one adult supervising them.

\*Buses are asked to turn off their engines, instead of idling, while parked. You can help reduce noise by encouraging your driver to do so.

\*Close windows on the bus when your group exits the vehicle. Crows, vultures, and other wildlife may try to enter the bus to get to any food stored inside... and leave behind a mess.