



Grand Canyon National Park  
PO Box 129 Grand Canyon Village, AZ 86023  
Fee Operations (928)-638-7852



## Grand Canyon National Park Educational Fee Waiver Application and Instructions

Planning Your Visit—Read this *before* completing and submitting waiver application

### **Transportation**

- All vehicles entering the park under an educational fee waiver must have an approved copy of page 3 of this application in their possession at all times.
- There are no restrictions to the size and number of vehicles per group; however, groups should strive to limit the number of vehicles due to parking limitations throughout the park.
- Groups should be prepared to encounter traffic at entrance stations, busy parking areas, scenic overlooks, and other popular areas. It is best to arrive before 9:00 am or after 4:00 pm to avoid long wait times at the entrance.

### **Parking**

- If your group plans to arrive in an oversized vehicle (Over 20 feet in length) please be aware that parking is limited to the following locations:
  - Lot 1—Grand Canyon Visitor Center (South Rim)
  - Lot B—Market Plaza, near park headquarters (South Rim)
  - Lot D—Backcountry Information Center (South Rim)
  - Watchtower Parking Lot (Desert View); Norton Court (North Rim)

### **Lodging**

- Educational fee waivers do not waive fees associated with camping or lodging inside the park.
- If your group is interested in camping, you may visit [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) and search for Mather Campground group camping (March-December) or North Rim Campground group camping (May-October) for details on how to make reservations.
- There are multiple hotel lodging options both inside and outside the park.

### **Limitations**

- Group Sizes and Chaperone Limits
  - Group sizes should be limited to no more than 30 people total in one area at a time; if your group exceeds this size, please split into groups of 30 or less and rotate use of trails, overlooks, museums, historic areas, etc.
  - Groups day hiking below the canyon rim should try to limit group size to 11 people.
  - Chaperone limits are enforced as follows:
    - K-5<sup>th</sup> 1 adult to 5 students
    - 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 adult to 10 students
    - College/University 1 adult to 20 students

*Ratios outside of these limits will be considered on a case-by-case basis.*

### **Fees**

- Approved Educational Fee Waivers cover entrance fees only—not camping or backcountry permit fees.
- Additional adult chaperones outside of the ratios listed above will be charged an \$8 per person fee, good for 7 days, upon entry.
- Federal Recreation Passes (Annual and Lifetime Passes) will be honored as described on the back of the pass.

### **Additional Educational Options**

- Groups who wish to enrich their educational outing should consider reaching out to Grand Canyon's Education team for information about Ranger led programming or lesson plans.
- Please email [grcaeducation@nps.gov](mailto:grcaeducation@nps.gov) or visit <http://www.nps.gov/grca/learn/education>



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Application Process— Read this *before* completing and submitting waiver application

All groups seeking a waiver of fees for educational study are required to meet three criteria before such a waiver will be issued—eligibility, academic purpose, and relevancy of park resources or facilities.

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**Criteria #1—Eligibility**

National or international applicants must prove they are a school or *bona fide* academic institution by submitting one of the following types of documentation:

- A statement confirming educational or scientific tax exemption from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or the applicant's national, state, or local tax authority; OR
- A statement, from a bona fide academic institution meeting one of these eligibility standards, confirming that the group is visiting for the purpose of providing transferable academic credit based on a curriculum; OR
- A statement of accreditation or recognition as an educational institution from a legitimate international, national, regional, state, or local authority for the applicant's location.

**Meeting Criteria #1**

Provide any of the following as a separate attachment/form during the application process:

- Current accreditation Letter or Recognition Letter from accrediting agency.
- Current tax exemption letter clearly showing educational or scientific exemption (simply providing a Tax ID# is not sufficient)
- A link to an accreditation website, listing the institution as accredited.

Please note, non-profit status is not an automatic qualifier for an educational fee waiver. As such, 501(c)(3) organizations must meet all 3 criteria to qualify for an educational fee waiver.

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**Criteria #2— Educational Purpose of the Visit**

- Applicants must provide a written statement confirming that the visit supports a specific curriculum for which academic credit is offered. Commercial enterprises are not eligible for fee waivers, but groups using a commercial vehicle for transportation only may apply.

**Meeting Criteria #2**

Provide any of the following to meet this criteria:

- Clearly written statement on Page 4 of this application, indicating educational goals and type of credit students will receive for attending this trip.
- Copy of College/University level syllabus.
- State or National Educational Standards met by the visit.

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**Criteria #3—Relevance of Park Resource or Facilities**

- Applicants must provide a written statement identifying the park resources and/or facilities that will be used to support the educational purpose of the visit, and how they are relevant to that purpose.

**Meeting Criteria #3**

- A clearly written statement on page 4 of this application that: identifies which specific park resources/locations will be used to achieve educational goals of the visit, and how they are relevant (i.e. studying the history of western exploration can be done at a variety of places; studying John Wesley Powell's exploration of the Colorado River necessitates resources located within Grand Canyon National Park).



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Name of Institution

Physical Address

Official in Charge of Group

Phone

Email

Arrival Date

Departure Date

Number of Students

Number of Chaperones

Number of Vehicles

Select the entrance you plan to use:

South Entrance

Desert View

North Rim

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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.

Signature of Official in Charge of Group

Date of Application

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For Official Use Only Below this Line

Approved

Denied (list criteria if denied)

# of Students

# of Chaperones

# of Vehicles

Additional Chaperones at \$8 per person:

Date(s):

to

Park Official

Control Number



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Criteria #1—Please provide this document as a separate document during submission.

Criteria #2—Describe the educational purpose of the visit.

Criteria #3—Describe the relevance of park resources or facilities to your trip.

Once completed, return this application via email to [grca\\_educational\\_fee\\_waiver@nps.gov](mailto:grca_educational_fee_waiver@nps.gov)