



Fee Waiver Policy - Educational Institutions

Fee Waiver Policy: Fee waiver procedures at White Sands National Monument will follow the guidelines as stated in the National Park Service, U.S Department of the Interior, Recreation Fee Management, RM 22A, 10.1.3. February 2014

National Park Service (NPS) regulations allow school groups and other *bona fide* national and international academic institutions to obtain a waiver for park entrance fee, provided that the visit is for educational credit or scientific purpose, and the resources or facilities the group proposes to use support those purposes.

Academic fee waivers are not granted automatically. Applicant groups must show they qualify for the waiver. There are three criteria to qualify for an academic fee waiver: eligibility, educational purpose, and relevance of park resources or facilities.

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.

2. Educational Purpose of the Visit

Applicants must provide a written statement (documentation) verifying that the visit supports a specific curriculum for which academic credit is offered. (e.g.: lesson plan with educational standards)

3. Relevance of Park Resources or Facilities

Relevance to park resources must be described. 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.

Not-for-profit groups such as service, civic, fraternal organizations, scouts, 4-H, rotary, Road Scholar etc. do not qualify for the educational fee waiver unless the group meets the applicable criteria above.

Safety Tips:

Natural conditions at White Sands can be hazardous. It is suggested that school groups bring one gallon of water per student. Water is not available in the dunefield. Sand that is tunneled into collapses easily, causing rapid suffocation. Sand sledding is a fun but a potentially hazardous sport, so please be careful. Portable shade structures are recommended. Adults and children need to bring plenty of water, snacks, hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Keep track of your students, roads can be busy at times and it is easy to get lost.

Monument Regulations:

The mission of the National Park Service is "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." DO NOT collect any sand, rock, or any other natural or archeological objects. Make sure to pick up your trash. Trash is unsightly and dangerous to animals that live in White Sands. Please *Leave No Trace*.



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Application for Waiver of Entrance Fees - Educational Institutions

Please answer all questions and give accurate or best estimate on numbers and times. Thank you.

Name of Institution: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____ Fax: _____

Official in charge of group: _____ Email Address: _____

Number of Students: _____ Number of Chaperones: _____ Number of Buses/Vans/Cars: _____

Date of Arrival: _____ Time of Arrival: _____

Would you like to be added to our educators email list? Yes No

1. To be eligible for an educational fee waiver, **YOU MUST** attach current official documentation of recognition of affiliation as an educational institution. For example, AN ACCREDITATION LETTER, TAX-EXEMPT LETTER, or LESSON PLAN ON LETTERHEAD. Simply stating or implying this on official letterhead is insufficient.

2. Explain the educational purpose of the trip. What aspect/resource of White Sands National Monument is to be studied:

3. Course title, catalog number, and description or grade level and subject matter:

I certify that this visit is directly related to the educational or scientific activities of the institution I am representing and the primary purpose of the visit is to study the resources of White Sands National Monument. I am responsible for the safety, behavior, and well-being of the group. I understand that if more than the approved chaperones enter the monument they will be charged the entrance fee. (Number of allowed chaperones: 5 elementary students - 1 chaperone, 12 high school students - 1 chaperone, 20 college students 1 chaperone.) I have read the regulations and safety tips related to the park on the first page of this form and agree, if the waiver is granted, that I and my group will comply with all the conditions stated therein.

Signature of group leader: _____

***Please return application by email to WWSA_education@nps.gov.
Application must be received at least TWO WEEKS prior to your planned visit.***

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT
In accordance with the National Park Service, U.S Department of the Interior, Recreation Fee Management, RM 22A, 10.1.3.
February 2014 the fee is waived for entrance fee only and does not give or imply permission for activities outside the rules and regulations applying to the use of White Sands National Monument.

Approved _____ Not Approved _____ Explanation for denial _____

Approved by (Ranger signature) _____ Date _____

THIS (signed) FEE WAIVER MUST BE PRESENTED UPON ENTRANCE TO THE MONUMENT.