# Earthwatch Student Challenge Fellowship

In 2024, The DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition has teamed with Earthwatch Australia to provide an incredible prize for an eligible student in years 10, 11 or 12 – a Student Challenge Fellowship to Calperum Station along the banks of the Muray River in South Australia from 27/9/2024 – 3/10/2024 (valued at over $5000). This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for a deserving student to experience environmental research firsthand!

**Applications close Friday 21 June 2024**

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

* Students must currently be in years 10, 11 or 12 and attending a **state government school** in any Australian state or territory.
* Students must (1) be a participant in the ‘Plant Science Project Awards’ section of the current DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition, and (2) complete and submit this application form by the competition closing date.
*Please note: applications for this Fellowship submitted directly via the Earthwatch Student Challenge website will be deemed ineligible. Applications must be submitted to the coordinator of the DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition.*
* The applying student has not participated in a previous Earthwatch Student Challenge expedition.
* Students are required to travel to South Australia and attend the Student Challenge expedition between **27 September** and **3 October 2024.**

*Please note: this expedition falls outside the spring school holiday period for applicants from Queensland state schools.*

## PRIZE CONDITIONS

* The Fellowship recipient (if residing in states other than SA) must arrange and cover costs for return travel from their home to their nearest airport.
* The Fellowship prize includes return transfers from airport arrivals in SA to the accommodation/venue.
* The Fellowship recipient is required to provide written feedback (and photos if possible) to the Schools Plant Science Competition Coordinator, regarding their experience, within one month of returning from the expedition.
* The Fellowship recipient will be notified via email in late July and will be publicly announced during the DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition’s annual ‘Awards Day & Ag Science Expo’ held in August.
* Should the Fellowship recipient (if currently in years 10 or 11) not be able to attend the SA expedition for any reason, they may opt to attend a different expedition in QLD in 2025 by notifying the coordinator of the DAF Hermitage Schools Plant Science Competition **no later than 20 August 2024**. If the Fellowship recipient is currently in year 12, then unfortunately, the prize will be forfeited by that student and will be offered to the next deserving student.
* The Fellowship Award is not transferable or redeemable for cash.

## Earthwatch Student Challenge Fellowship application form

[ ]  I have parental permission to attend [the](https://science.uq.edu.au/event/feast)[**Earthwatch Student Challenge Fellowship**](https://earthwatch.org.au/education/student-development/student-challenge) to be held at Calperum Station, South Australia, from **27 September to 3 October 2024**.

Applicant details:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **STUDENT’S NAME:** |  | **SCHOOL NAME:** |  |
| **CURRENT YEAR LEVEL:** |  | **TEACHER’S NAME:** |  |
| **EMAIL ADDRESS:** |  | **TEACHER’S EMAIL ADDRESS:** |  |
| **CONTACT PHONE:** |  | **TEACHER’S CONTACT PHONE:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PARENT/GUARDIAN’S NAME:** |  |
| **PARENT/GUARDIAN’S EMAIL:** |  |
| **PARENT/GUARDIAN’S SIGNATURE:** |  |

Applicant (student) please answer the following questions (please attach a separate page if you need more space).

***What interests you about the Earthwatch Student Challenge?***

***What do you hope to learn from participating in the Student Challenge?***

***Why do you love nature? Tell us about your personal experience with the natural world.***

***Earthwatch expeditions require teamwork, often in difficult conditions. What experience do you have of working in a team? What qualities do you think contribute to effective teamwork?***

***What plans do you have for your future? (e.g., career, study, travel, etc.) How will participating on the Student Challenge help you meet your goals?***

***What do you think are the most important actions you can or do take to help Australia's environment?***

***Tell us about how you will apply your experience to demonstrate environmental leadership. E.g. how will you use what you have learned, to do something for the environment?***

## Privacy statement

To manage our Hermitage Research Facility Schools Plant Science Competition awards program, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries collects your:

* Name
* Email address
* Telephone number
* Age and/or current year level
* School name and/or teacher’s name and contact information
* Written feedback (and photographs) submitted, as a requirement of the award acceptance
* Opinions and career aspirations
* Parent or guardian’s name, email address, telephone number and signature

We collect this information to communicate with you and your parent or guardian in order to organise and manage this Award being offered as part of the Hermitage Research Facility Schools Plant Science Competition (competitions).

Your information may be shared where necessary with Queensland Government staff, competition sponsors and assessors of applications.

You may be invited to participate in publicity (social media; media; etc) to promote the competition. Your participation would be voluntary.

We will only use your information for necessary purposes which are directly related to the competition. Your personal information will not otherwise be used or disclosed unless authorised or required by law. For additional privacy information go to <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/site-information/privacy>.