The Sophie Danforth Conservation Biology Fund (SDCBF), established by Roger Williams Park Zoo and the Rhode Island Zoological Society in 1989, supports conservation programs that protect threatened wildlife and habitats worldwide.

Funding is directed towards field studies and other projects that demonstrate a multi-disciplinary approach to biodiversity and ecosystem conservation. This includes development of techniques that can be used in a natural environment, environmental education programs, and breeding programs that stress an integrative approach to conservation. Projects that involve in-country collaborators or align with RWPZoo’s conservation portfolio receive the highest funding priority.

**Submission guidelines**

* Applications for the 2024 grants will be accepted through June 1st, 2024.
* Grants will be awarded by September 15th, 2024. No funds will be provided before October 1st.
* Awardees must provide a progress report including an update on the status of the project and detailing budgetary expeditures by September 15th, 2025.
* Completed application must include the following:
  1. Completed application form including literature cited and a detailed budget for the project.
  2. Curriculum Vitae (two page maximum).
  3. Two letters of recommendation, each from a different individual familiar with the applicant and the proposal.
* Only complete application submissions will be considered.
* Electronic submissions are preferred. Send submissions to [SophieDanforth@rwpzoo.org](mailto:SophieDanforth@rwpzoo.org)

**Project Eligibility**

* Applicants must be associated with an organization (e.g. NGO, university, etc.) through which they can receive funding. Organizations, not individuals, receive funding check. There are no eligibility restrictions on the nationality of the applicant.
* Roger Williams Park Zoo is not required to be a collaborator for a project to be eligible for funding.
* Funds for elements of a project that will have already occurred before awards are granted are not eligible for grants.
* We may consider partial funding of a project if a particular component of the project has support and can be completed independently, or if it is made clear that additional funding has been obtained or is being sought from other sources to cover remaining costs.
* We will not consider funding highly invasive, terminal research projects, or projects that collect/voucher specimens.
* Projects that have been funded by the SDCBF are eligible for a second year of funding. A second application must be submitted according to the application guidelines, along with a progress report from the first year of SDCBF funding.
* Awardees must acknowledge the SDCBF and notify RWPZ in any publications produced as a result of the project.

**Appliant’s Name:**

**Job title or position:**

**Applicant’s Organization Affiliation:**

**Phone number:**

**Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Country & Region of grant actions:**

**Website/Social Media (if available):**

**Grant funding request (up to $1,000):**

**Total project budget:**

**Project Title:**

**Abstract (150 word limit):**

**Project Description**

Introduce project explaining rationale for the project, specific conservation goals and objectives, and hypotheses to be tested. Clearly describe the applied conservation goals explaining any capacity building and overall sustainability of project goals. (600 word limit)

**Project Methodology**

Describe plan of action describing data collection methods, sample size, and detailed timetable including project’s completion date and dissemination plan. (400 word limit)

**Project Implementation Plan**

Describe implentation plan detailing how the project results will be used in conservation action or policy. Explain how project ties with IUCN Specialist Group action plan, if applicable.

**Project Evaluation**

Outline evaluation process explaining how the project’s impact(s) on conservation will be assessed.

**Literature Cited**

List literature cited in the proposal narrative.

**Project Budget**

Provide detailed budget for the project. Include a budget justification with a description of how the SDCBF grant money will be used. List amount and sources of additional support, pending or received.