

Animal Ethics Committee Service Fee Schedule

From 1st January 2026, CDU AEC fees apply for the use of the CDU AEC, noting that there is no fee for review of Charles Darwin University Researcher-led projects.

Item	Description	Fee per annum
Tier 1 projects*	Projects involving observational studies only	\$1000
Tier 2 projects*	Projects involving low impact with minor interference of animals	\$1600
Tier 3 projects*	All other projects	\$2200
Resubmission	Resubmission of a new (or renewal) project application (project application not approved on review by the AEC)	\$500
Facility Inspection	Additional fee per facility housing/holding animals. Fee calculated based off distance ex CDU Casuarina Campus	
	Local Darwin <40km	\$900
	Greater Darwin Area 40-100km	\$1250
	Remote Area 100-400km	\$2200
	Remote Area >400km	\$3000
	Remote (multimedia): Special circumstances where the AEC has approved structured remote monitoring	\$900
AEC Member Service	If a person is nominated and accepted as an AEC member, a fee reduction will be provided	\$1200 fee reduction

*Each Tier 1 to Tier 3 annual fee can include up to 3 projects. The fee allocated will reflect the project of the highest tier (i.e. if there are two Tier 1 projects and one Tier 2 project, the annual fee will be \$1600 as per the Tier 2 fee).

Tier 1: Projects involving observational studies only. For example:

- Camera traps; BRUVs
- Search for animal signs
- Call playback
- Aerial visual surveys (UAV, helicopter)

Tier 2: Projects involving low impact work with minor interference of animals. For example:

- Fauna surveys (catch and release wildlife surveys). Includes low impact animal marking (paint, hair clip, PIT tagging, or ear notching). Does not include more invasive procedures such as:
 - scute/shell notching, application of ear tags, application of collars/satellite tags.
 - genetic samples, biopsies, blood samples, or tags requiring surgical placement.
- Mist netting and bird banding projects with no other procedures performed.
- Aquaculture catch and release projects involving standard catch techniques and external fish identification tags such as dart and T-bar tags (not satellite transmitters).

- Agricultural feeding projects or similar (i.e. weight data only or muster and walk through yards with no procedures involved; non-invasive husbandry related activities).
- Standard beach surveys for nesting turtles (flipper tags/nest data without satellite transmitters).

Tier 3: All other projects (Includes umbrella projects regardless of impact involved).

Resubmission fees: additional to annual fees and must be paid at the time (before resubmission review).

AEC Member Service:

- AEC member recruitment will follow standard recruitment processes (positions are advertised; members recruited as per the AEC Terms of Reference).
- A member nominated by an organisation is not guaranteed appointment. The AEC will appoint members that best serve the AEC's activities.
- It is expected that the AEC member will attend a minimum of five meetings per year and will give suitable time to committee duties (meeting preparation/participation). Failure to perform satisfactorily may result in removal of fee waiver or AEC membership termination).

Facility inspections: the requirement for facility inspections is determined by the AEC on project review. The facility inspection fee is an annual fee (not per inspection if more frequent inspections are required).

Payment of fees: fee payment is not a guarantee of project approval. Fees are calendar year. Invoices will be generated in January and are to be paid within 30 days of receipt.

If a fee is required part-way through the year (i.e. new user, or additional project in excess of three project cap), a pro-rata fee will be calculated.