

NC WRRRI RFP Info Session

For follow-up and additional questions

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Faculty Pre-Proposals Due **May 26, 2020**

Student Full Proposals Due **July 13, 2020**

How to get more info

- WRRRI website
 - wrrri.ncsu.edu
 - Hover over “Research” in top horizontal menu and select “Funding” from drop down menu
 - Or click on “Research” in top horizontal menu and scroll down and click on “Funding” link
- Listservs
 - WRRRI News – open to anyone interested in water resources info, including research opportunities (medium traffic, cyclical)
 - NC Sponsored Research – for administrative staff in university offices of contracts/grants, or departmental admin staff, those who help distribute funding announcements (low traffic)
 - Water Research – for faculty interested in funding announcements (low traffic)
 - Email Anna Martin (aearnol2@ncsu.edu) or Lee Cannon (lacannon@ncsu.edu) to sign up for listservs

Who We Are

- Based at NC State University, serving UNC System and all public & private universities in NC
- One of 54 national institutes based at land-grant institutions
- Established by the WRRRA in 1965, federally funded by US Geological Survey with NCSU providing state match
- Institutes have a common mission to:
 - Plan, conduct or otherwise arrange for competent applied and peer-reviewed research; and
 - Cooperate with other colleges and universities in the state to develop a statewide program designed to resolve state and regional water and related land problems.



Our Research

- Research priorities informed by, but not limited to:
 - State and federal resource management agencies
 - WRRRI Advisory Committee
 - NC-based academic institutions
 - Local governments
 - Community leaders
 - Industry partners
 - Non-governmental entities
- Multi/Interdisciplinary
- Do not fund projects focused on ocean only, monitoring only, or health effects involving human subjects

What's Important in a Proposal

- Show the applied nature of the research
- Show the significance to North Carolina
- Clear hypotheses and research objectives (beyond just tool or method development, descriptive work/problem characterization)
- Student engagement and support
- Undergraduate engagement on grad student proposals
- Engagement of end-users
- Thoughtful approaches to dissemination of research results (final reports required for all WRRI funded projects)
- Letters of Support

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

- Sought and Achieved Through:
 - Individual applicants (i.e. the PI)
 - Institutional representation
 - Partnerships
 - Students engaged in the project
 - Communities served by the research
 - Communities engaged in the research
 - Culturally appropriate methods of information dissemination
 - Environmental justice considerations of the research topic

Important Notes about Timelines & Budgets

- 2-year projects funded on an annual basis (consider when planning objectives and budget)
- Year 1 and Year 2 budgets, objectives and milestones should be distinct
- All funds are contingent on federal appropriation of funds
- Year 2 funds are contingent on satisfactory performance of Year 1
- No cost extensions are increasingly difficult to justify unless there are extreme circumstances

Important Notes about Student Projects

- Eligibility considerations for incoming students
- Must be written by the student
- Should not be a back up, duplicate, supplement or pared down version of a faculty submission
- Faculty mentors
- Letters of support from sponsoring faculty member (vs additional letters of support)

Our Review Process

- Faculty Pre-Proposals
 - Reviewed by advisory committee and other in-state subject experts
 - Approximately 50-75% invited to submit full proposal
 - Full proposals reviewed by experts in national/international peer-review process
 - Top tier proposals based on peer review (approximately half) reviewed by Technical Advisory Panel and discussed at day-long TAP meeting
 - TAP meeting results help inform final funding decisions
- Student Proposals
 - Reviewed by advisory committee, other subject experts, and technical advisory panel
 - TAP convenes for day-long meeting to discuss proposals and reviews
 - TAP meeting results help inform final funding decisions

How to Apply

- New online application system – quick online view.

Questions from participants?

- Email Follow Up
 - Nicole Wilkinson McIntosh
nicole_wilkinson@ncsu.edu
 - John Fear
jmfear@ncsu.edu
 - Note: Due to decreased on campus operations in response to the coronavirus pandemic, all WRRRI team members are teleworking.
Therefore:
 - Email is the best way to reach us.
 - Please copy another team member on your email in addition to your primary contact to ensure a speedier response.
 - Phone calls and voicemails are not likely to be returned in a timely manner since we are not in the office.