



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FY 2020 State Water Research Institute Program

Introduction

Under the Water Resources Research Act, Section 104 research grant program, which is administered by the US Department of the Interior through the Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, the Division of Hydrologic Sciences (DHS) of the Desert Research Institute (DRI) is soliciting proposals for funding. The following are general guidelines concerning this program.

Funding

It is anticipated that approximately \$85,000 of Federal funding will be available for new sponsored research projects in FY 2020. Proposals should be for research and information transfer projects 12 months in duration. Applicants are required to match each Federal dollar requested with at least two non-federal dollars.

Note: *The award of funds is contingent upon the availability of appropriated Federal funds.*

Program Objectives

Applications submitted under this announcement are to be in furtherance of the following objectives:

- (1) "plan, conduct, or otherwise arrange for competent applied and peer reviewed research that fosters –
 - (A) improvements in water supply reliability;
 - (B) the exploration of new ideas that –
 - (i) address water problems; or
 - (ii) expand understanding of water and water-related phenomena;
 - (C) the entry of new research scientists, engineers, and technicians into water resources fields; and
 - (D) the dissemination of research results to water managers and the public.
- (2) "cooperate closely with other colleges and universities in the State that have demonstrated capabilities for research, information dissemination, and graduate training in order to develop a statewide program designed to resolve State and regional water and related land problems."

The Act also requires each institute to:

(3) "cooperate closely with other institutes and other organizations in the region to increase the effectiveness of the institutes and for the purpose of promoting regional coordination."

Applications submitted under this announcement are to be in furtherance of these objectives and promote the national mission and objectives of the U.S. Geological Survey which are focused on providing water quality and quantity information, understanding water availability, addressing the influence of climate on water resources, and responding to water-related emerging needs.

Deadline

Proposals must be received **no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 6, 2019** to allow for review, selection, and processing. Proposers will be notified of outcomes by 12/31/2019. Final packages must be submitted electronically from this office to the USGS in early January 2020.

Application Requirements

- The period of performance will begin from the date of award (March 1, 2020). Awards will be for a maximum of **12 months duration**, and have an end date not later than February 28, 2021.
- Projects must have a reportable element to be included in the FY 2020 program report.
- All proposals must include a 2-1 non-federal match. The applicant shall have all matching funds committed at the time of application submittal. Also, only direct cost budget categories will be funded from the Federal share of each award. Since no indirect costs are awarded under this competition, forgiven indirect costs may be used as part of the non-federal match.

If you are interested in applying for a grant under this program, please contact Suzanne Hudson at (702) 862-5464 or email (Suzanne.Hudson@dri.edu) for a complete set of the guidelines.

Proposal Review and Selection Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

1. 20 points Relevance and Importance
2. 25 points Scientific Methods
3. 10 points Feasibility & Budget Justification
4. 15 points Technology Transfer
5. 10 points Qualifications of Investigators
6. 20 points Student Educational Opportunities