

Utah Center for Water Resources Research (UCWRR)
USGS 104(b) Annual Base Grants Program
Request for Pre-Proposals FY 2021

Deadline: **November 1, 2020, 5:00 PM**

Project Period: **3/1/2021 – 2/28/2022**

Send To:

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For further Information:

See the UCWRR website:

<https://uwrl.usu.edu/research/ucwrr/index>

or USGS website:

<https://water.usgs.gov/wrri/>

Questions:

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Program Description and Objectives:

The Utah Center for Water Resources Research (UCWRR) is one of 54 federally authorized water resource institutes or centers throughout the United States and its territories. It operates under the authority of the Water Resources Research Act of 1964 through the Water Resources Research Institutes Program administered by the USGS.

The Center is directed, in part, to plan, conduct, or otherwise arrange for competent applied and peer reviewed research that fosters improvements in water supply reliability, the exploration of new ideas that address water problems or expands understanding of water and water-related phenomena, the entry of new research scientists, engineers, and technicians into water resources fields, and the dissemination of research results to water managers and the public. Pre-proposals submitted under this announcement should further these objectives.

Funding Information:

Pre-proposals should be for projects of 12 months duration that address water problems in the State of Utah. It is anticipated that **3–5 projects** will be selected to submit full proposals. Typical award amounts are **between \$25,000 and \$30,000 (matching funds are required)**. All awards are subject to the availability of federal funds and other applicable considerations.

Matching Requirement:

Matching funds of 2:1 non-federal to federal dollars are required. Indirect costs are not allowed on the Federal cost category. However, indirect costs may be used to provide part of the matching

requirements (i.e., indirect costs computed for federal funds may be used as part of the non-federal match. Indirect costs are allowed on the non-federal funds portion of the budget as match.

Eligibility:

Any faculty member or affiliate at an institution of higher education in the State of Utah can apply. Federal employees are NOT eligible as a principal investigator but may participate as a co-investigators.

Exclusions:

- Applications for research on health effects involving human subjects and research involving oceanography (estuarine research applications are acceptable).
- Applications for research that do not meet the program objectives.
- Federal employees may not receive federal funds for any purpose under these awards.

Research Priorities

Research areas specified by the USGS are: providing water quality and quantity information, understanding water availability, addressing the influence of climate on water resources, and responding to water-related emerging needs.

Selection Criteria:

- 30% – Scientific merit / Research approach
- 25% – Applicability to Utah’s need
- 25% – Research Impact
- 20% – Training potential / Technology transfer

Proposal Guidelines:

Project pre-proposals should include:

- (1) A project description of no more than 5 pages (excluding citations & investigator qualifications).
- (2) A 1-page draft budget. This does not require institutional commitment at the pre-proposal stage, but should state how the 2:1 match requirement will be met.

NOTE: Selected projects will be required to submit a full proposal by December 15, 2020 for inclusion in the full UCWRR proposal to USGS.

Contents:

- 1) Title. Concise but descriptive.
- 2) Project Type. Choose from the following: Research, Information Transfer, Information Management System, or Education.
- 3) Focus Categories. Choose a maximum of three focus categories from the list provided (Attachment A), with the most preferred focus category first.
- 4) Research Category. Choose from the following the one category that most closely applies:
 - a. Water Scarcity and Availability
 - b. Water Hazards and Climate Variability
 - c. Water Quality
 - d. Water Policy, Planning, and Socioeconomics

- e. Watershed and Ecosystem Function
 - f. Water Technology and Innovation
 - g. Workforce Development and Water Literacy
- 5) Keywords. Enter keywords of your choice descriptive of the work.
 - 6) Principal investigator(s). Provide name, academic rank, university, email address and phone number of the principle investigators.
 - 7) Abstract. Provide a brief description of the problem, methods, and objectives.
 - 8) Statement of regional or State water problem. Include an explanation of the need for the project, who wants it, and why.
 - 9) Statement of results or benefits. Specify the type of information that is to be gained and how it will be used.
 - 10) Nature, scope, and objectives of the project, including a timeline of activities.
 - 11) Methods, procedures, and facilities. Provide enough information to permit evaluation of the technical adequacy of the approach to satisfy the objectives.
 - 12) Related research. Show by literature and communication citations the similarities and dissimilarities of the proposed project to completed or ongoing work on the same topic.
 - 13) Training potential. Estimate the number of graduate and undergraduate students, by degree level, who are expected to receive training in the project.
 - 14) Budget breakdown. A one-page draft budget and basic budget justification including details on meeting the 2:1 match.
 - 15) Investigator's qualifications. Include resume(s) of the principal investigator(s). Limit to 2 pages with no more than 15 pertinent publications.

Reporting Requirements:

At the completion of the project, recipients will be required to prepare a final report summary.

The USGS tracks project productivity such as research publications, conference proceedings, patents, student participation, training sessions, etc., and you will be required to provide this information in your project summary report and to report on publications and other outcomes that result from this project in subsequent years.

All outputs of your 104b supported research must acknowledge both the USGS and UCWRR for the 104b grant opportunity and must include the project number assigned to your research. The following additional information must be provided as a reporting requirement:

- Name, major, degree program of all student working on the project.
- One or more publication quality photo(s) of project-related work (and/or student performing such work).
- Electronic copies of any student thesis or dissertation, poster, or PowerPoint presentation resulting from the project.
- Journal articles submitted for publication or link to publication.
- Fact sheets or any other materials produced as part of the project.
- A final abstract (around 250 words) summarizing major findings of the project suitable for newsletter publication.
- Publications, information transfer, student support, and notable achievements and awards.

ATTACHMENT A

FOCUS CATEGORIES

ACD—ACID DEPOSITION	MET—METHODS
AG—AGRICULTURE	MOD—MODELS
CP—CLIMATOLOGICAL PROCESSES	NC—NITRATE CONTAMINATION
COV—CONSERVATION	NPP—NON POINT POLLUTION
DROU—DROUGHT	NU—NUTRIENTS
ECL—ECOLOGY	RAD—RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES
ECON—ECONOMICS	REC—RECREATION
EDU—EDUCATION	SED—SEDIMENTS
FL—FLOODS	ST—SOLUTE TRANSPORT
GEOMOR--GEOMORPOLOGICAL PROCESSES	SW—SURFACE WATER
GEOCHE--GEOCHEMICAL PROCESSES	TS—TOXIC SUBSTANCES
GW—GROUNDWATER	TRT—TREATMENT
HYDROGEO—HYDROGEOCHEMISTRY	WW—WASTEWATER
HYDROL—HYDROLOGY	WQL—WATER QUALITY
INV—INVASIVE SPECIES	WQN—WATER QUANTITY
IG—IRRIGATION	WS—WATER SUPPLY
LIP--LAW, INSTITUTIONS, AND POLICY	WET—WETLANDS
M&P—MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING	