



2020 Request for Pre-Proposals **Closing Date: October 16, 2019 at 5 PM (Mountain Time)**

The Colorado Water Center (CoWC) is established under the Federal Water Resources Research Act, as amended, and is authorized by the Colorado legislature, most recently in 2019, under HB19-1015. At the federal level, CoWC is one of 54 water institutes administered by the U.S. Geological Survey in the Department of Interior. Under Section 104(b) of the Water Resources Research Act, CoWC is to ‘...plan, conduct, or otherwise arrange for competent research...’ that fosters the entry of new scientists into water resources fields, the preliminary exploration of new ideas that address water problems or expand understanding of water and water-related phenomena, and disseminates research results to water managers and the public. The research program is open to faculty and researchers at any public institution of higher education in Colorado that has ‘demonstrated capabilities for research, information dissemination, and graduate training ... to resolve State and regional water and related land problems.’

Priority Research Topics:

Projects must be located in Colorado and should address priority issues identified in Colorado’s Water Plan. Special consideration will be given to projects that include climate change aspects and advance the implementation of Colorado’s Water Plan. For the 2020 competition, the CoWC Advisory Committee for Water Research Policy has identified needs for new water knowledge that will assist in addressing the following issues for Colorado:

- Economics of ATMs, including assessments of potential public benefits (e.g. water quality), and other options for keeping water on agricultural lands and holding water rights intact.
- Management of non-native species in Upper Colorado River Basin.
- Quantification of industrial hemp water use and best management practices for hemp irrigation management.
- Best practices and tools for promoting forest health, including a state-of-the-science analysis on the impact of extreme events on forest health and watershed recovery from extreme events.
- Supply chain solutions for Ag water reductions.

Interested applicants interested in these topics are encouraged to contact Reagan Waskom at reagan.waskom@colostate.edu for additional details.

Funds Available:

The 2020 CoWC Request for pre-proposals is supported by the U.S. Geological Survey and the Colorado Water Conservation Board, pending federal and state budget allocations.

CoWC research funds are awarded through a competitive process guided by the CoWC Advisory Committee. Project budgets must not exceed \$50,000 of total funds requested.

Expected Award/Start Date:

Projects funded with state funds will have a July 1, 2020 start and a June 30, 2021 end date.

Indirect Rate:

Projects funded with state funds will have a 15% indirect rate.

Pre-Proposal Review Process:

All pre-proposals are due to the CoWC office by October 16, 2019 at 5 PM (MT). Pre-proposals will be reviewed before ranking by the CoWC Advisory Committee. The general criteria used for pre-proposal evaluation include: (1) scientific merit; (2) responsiveness to RFP; (3) qualifications of investigators; (4) originality of approach; (5) budget; and (6) extent to which Colorado water managers and users are collaborating.

Eligibility:

The competition is open to faculty and researchers at Colorado's public research universities.

Applications Not Eligible for Funding:

Applications submitted by an investigator that has not met reporting requirements on a previous award administered or awarded by CoWC.

Pre-Proposal Submission:

Pre-Proposals are to be submitted electronically in WORD format and are to be received no later than **5 PM (MT) on October 16, 2019**. Submit to nancy.grice@colostate.edu

Pre-Proposal Preparation Guidelines:

Pre-proposal body (Items 7-11 below) must not exceed 2 single spaced pages.

Format guidelines are as follows:

- 12 point font size
- Times New Roman font
- 1 inch margins (all sides)

Pre-Proposals must include the following items:

1. **Title.** Concise but descriptive.
2. **Principal Investigator name(s) and university.** Provide name, academic rank, department, university phone number and email address.
3. **Project Type.** Choose from the following: Research, Information Transfer, Education, or Other (please specify).
4. **Keywords.** Provide three keywords, of your choice, descriptive of the work.
5. **Location** where the work is to be conducted in Colorado.
6. **Abstract.** Provide a brief (300 words or less) description of the problem, methods, objectives, and expected outcomes of the proposal.
7. **Statement of water problem.** Include an explanation of the need for the project - who wants it and how it benefits Colorado.
8. **Statement of the results or benefits.** Specify the type of information that is to be gained and how it will be used.
9. **Nature, scope, and objectives of the project, including a timeline of activities.**
10. **Methods, procedures, and facilities.** Provide enough information to permit evaluation of the technical adequacy of the approach to satisfy the objectives.
11. **Related research.** (Research projects only) Show by literature and communication citations the similarities and dissimilarities of the proposed project to completed or on-going work on the same topic.
12. **Budget Breakdown.** Provide a brief preliminary budget using the format provided. (see [Attachment A](#))
13. **Budget Justification.** Breakdown and justify expenses.
It is mandatory that you follow the format in [Attachment B](#).
14. **Investigator's Qualifications.** Include resume(s) of the principal investigator(s). No resume shall exceed two pages or list more than 15 pertinent publications.
15. **Department Accounting Contact Information.** Provide name, phone number, and email.
16. **Department Head Contact Information.** Provide name, phone number, and email.

Pre-Proposals chosen for funding will be provided with guidelines for full proposal and budget format. Full proposals will be due December 16, 2019.

Deliverables:

Funded projects will be required to submit a completion report and any other project deliverable within 60 days of project end date addressing the description of the problem, research objectives, methodology, principle findings and project accomplishments including training provided, publications and impact. In addition, the PI will be required to write one Colorado Water newsletter article detailing project accomplishments and impact. Principal Investigators may be asked to provide oral briefings to the CoWC Advisory Committee, the Colorado Legislature and the Colorado Water Congress. PI's will submit publications, awards, and other impacts of the projects that occur after the reporting period to the CoWC.

Financial Policy:

The PI is ultimately responsible for CoWC funded accounts. If the budget is over expended or expenditures were improperly charged, the PI and his/her department or college are responsible for providing funds for the unauthorized spending. Funding for tuition is not allowed.

Questions:

Please contact Reagan Waskom by phone at (970) 491-6308 or by e-mail at: Reagan.Waskom@ColoState.edu if there are questions about this solicitation.

Please visit <http://www.watercenter.colostate.edu> for a full electronic version of this Request for Pre-proposals.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN EXAMPLE**PROJECT TITLE:**

| PERSONNEL SALARIES | YEAR 1 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Academic Faculty: | \$ 10,000 |
| Fringe: | \$ 2,870 |
| Administrative Professional: | |
| Fringe: | |
| Post Docs, Interns, GVR: | |
| Fringe: | |
| Student Hourly: | \$ 10,000 |
| Fringe: | \$ 110 |
| GRA'S: | \$ 11,400 |
| Fringe: | \$ 958 |
| TOTAL SALARY: | \$ 31,400 |
| TOTAL FRINGE: | \$ 3,938 |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL: | \$ 35,338 |
| DOMESTIC TRAVEL: | \$ 1,872 |
| MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES: | \$ 3,768 |
| OTHER DIRECT COSTS | |
| Publications: | \$ 2,500 |
| Equipment Use Fees: | |
| Consultants: | |
| Other: | |
| TOTAL OTHER DIRECT: | \$ 2,500 |
| TOTAL DIRECT COSTS: | \$ 43,478 |
| INDIRECT 15%: | \$ 6,522 |
| TOTAL: | \$ 50,000 |

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION EXAMPLE

Project Title: [Type project title here]

| |
|---|
| Salaries and Wages for Academic Faculty. Provide personnel, title/position, and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual. |
| PI: Name-Base Salary \$ 10,000/Month @ 8.33% Effort X 12 = \$10,000 |
| Salaries and Wages for Administrative Professional, Post Docs, Interns, GVR's, and GRA's. Provide personnel, title/position, estimated hours and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual. |
| One Graduate Research Assistant (GRA)- Base Salary \$1,900/Month @ 50% effort X 12= \$11,400 |
| Salaries and Wages for Undergraduate Students. Provide personnel, title/position, estimated hours and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual. |
| 625 Hours @ \$16/Hour = \$10,000 |
| Fringe Benefits for Academic Faculty. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. |
| 28.70% Fringe X \$10,000 = \$2,870 |
| Fringe Benefits for Administrative Professional, Post Docs, Interns, GVR's, and GRA's. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. |
| 8.40% Fringe X \$11,400= \$958 |
| Fringe Benefits for Undergraduate Students. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. |
| 1.10% Fringe X \$10,000 = \$110 |
| Domestic Travel. Provide purpose and estimated costs for all travel. A breakdown should be provided to include locations, number of personnel, number of days, per diem rate, lodging rate, mileage and mileage rate, airfare (whatever is applicable). |
| Travel from Fort Collins to and from the Colorado River Trailhead (closest access to field sites) 150 miles X \$0.52/mile/4WD X 24 trips = \$1,872 |
| Materials and Supplies. Indicate separately the amounts proposed for laboratory, computing, and field supplies. Provide a breakdown of supplies in each category. |
| Field Supplies: 20 Batteries at \$10/each = \$200 Laboratory Supplies: 50 Suspended Sediment Filters @ \$61/each = \$3,050 Tarps, Stakes, Meter and Other Misc. Supplies= \$518 |
| Services or Consultants. Identify the specific tasks for which these services, consultants, or subcontracts would be used. Provide a detailed breakdown of the services or consultants to include personnel, time, salary, supplies, travel, etc. |
| N/A |
| Other Direct Costs. Itemize costs not included elsewhere, including publication costs. Costs for services and consultants should be included and justified under "Services or Consultants (above). Please provide a breakdown for costs listed under this category |
| Publications-Posters and Final Reports-\$2,500 |
| Indirect (15%) Costs. |
| \$43,478 X 15% = \$6,522 |
| PROJECT TOTAL |
| \$50,000 |