



**U.S. Geological Survey
Department of the Interior**

**STATE WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2013 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
under Section 104 of the
Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as Amended**

**ANNOUNCEMENT 11HQPA0002
Revised October 3, 2012**

**CLOSING DATE
JANUARY 15, 2014
4:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time**

OMB Number:1028-0097
Expiration Date 07/31/2013

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT: A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Public burden for the collection of this information is estimated to average 62 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions and completing the form. Comments regarding this collection of information should be directed to the Bureau Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey 2150 Centre Avenue Fort Collins, CO 80525 or call 970-226-9445.

U.S. Geological Survey

STATE WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2013 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ELECTRONIC FILING OF APPLICATIONS REQUIRED	1
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES	1
III. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	2
IV. APPLICATIONS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING	2
V. FEDERAL FUNDS	2
VI. MATCHING FUNDS	2
VII. APPLICATION DUE DATE	3
VIII. APPLICATION CONTENTS	3
IX. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS	4
X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	6
ATTACHMENTS	
A APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE (SF-424)	9
B ASSURANCES (SF-424B)	15
C BUDGET BREAKDOWN	17
D BUDGET JUSTIFICATION	18
E BUDGET SUMMARY	19
F FOCUS CATEGORIES	20
G FEDERAL AWARD IDENTIFIERS	21

**STATE WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
FY 2013**

ELECTRONIC FILING OF APPLICATIONS REQUIRED

Applications under this Announcement must be submitted through the Internet site at <https://niwr.net/>. Institute Directors or their designee(s) are responsible for submitting their applications electronically. Preparation of each application must follow the instructions contained herein and on the Internet site.

I. INTRODUCTION

This Program Announcement is issued under the provisions of section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-242), as amended by Public Laws 101-397, 104-147, 106-374, and 109-471. Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to administer program grants to Institutes and Centers established under the provisions of section 104(a) of the Act. Water Resources Institutes or Centers have been established in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. The Institute in Guam also serves the Federated States of Micronesia and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Institute in Hawaii also serves American Samoa. Responsibility for administration of the State Water Resources Research Institute program has been delegated to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

The USGS contacts for this program are:

Program Office
Earl Greene
Acting Chief, Office of External Research
Grants
5522 Research Park Drive
Survey
Baltimore, MD 21228
Phone: 443-498-5505
email: eagreene@usgs.gov

Grants Office
Kimberly L. Dove
Office of Acquisition and
MS 205, U.S. Geological
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia, 20192
Phone: 703-648-7487
email: kdove@usgs.gov

II. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Section 104(b) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 requires the Institutes or Centers to:

- (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. Specific areas of emphasis are at the discretion of the individual Institute or Center Directors.

III. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applications will be accepted only from Institutes or Centers established pursuant to the provisions of Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended. The applicant may consider project proposals only from faculty members or affiliates at institutions of higher education in its State.

IV. APPLICATIONS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

- A. Applications for research on health effects involving human subjects.
- B. Applications for research involving oceanography (estuarine research applications are acceptable).
- C. Applications submitted by an Institute or Center that has not met reporting requirements on a previous award by the USGS.

V. FEDERAL FUNDS

Funds have not yet been appropriated for this program for FY 2013. For planning purposes, assume that the amount available to each Institute or Center in FY 2013 is \$92,335. Assume that a total of \$277,005 is available to the regional Institute in Guam, which serves Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Assume that a total of \$184,670 is available to the regional Institute in Hawaii, which serves Hawaii and American Samoa. The Government's obligation under this program is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.

VI. MATCHING FUNDS

- A. Each applicant must match each Federal dollar provided with not less than two dollars from non-federal sources.

Note: Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa are exempt from the matching requirement.

- B. The matching requirement applies to the overall application, not the individual projects within the application.
- C. Matching funds shall be obligated during the period of performance.
- D. The matching requirement should be met during each 12-month budget period.

Note: Matching funds in excess of the required 2:1, non-Federal:Federal, match are acceptable and can be credited against subsequent year matches during the period of the grant.

- E. Matching funds obligated shall be reflected on line 10.i. of each Federal Financial Report, Standard Form 425.
- F. Matching funds may contain indirect costs and non-federal salaries and benefits. The applicant's negotiated indirect cost rate (NICR) may be applied to **both** qualifying federal and non-federal direct costs, and the result used to satisfy part of the matching requirement under the non-federal share. The NICR shall not be applied to tuition and equipment costs. **Federal funds shall not be used to pay indirect costs.**

Regulations pertaining to allowable matching funds are provided in the Code of Federal Regulations at 43CFR12.64 and in the following OMB Circulars:

- Circular A-21 for Educational Institutions
- Circular A-87 for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments
- Circular A-122 for Private Nonprofit Organizations

VII. APPLICATION DUE DATE

Applications must be filed at <https://niwr.net/> prior to **4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, January 15, 2014.**

VIII. APPLICATION CONTENTS

Each application shall consist of the following items:

- A. Signed SF 424, Application for Federal Assistance [Attachment A]
- B. Signed Assurances [Attachment B]
- C. Signed Matching Funds Commitment Letter
- D. Program Administration/Management Description, including a Budget Breakdown (Attachment C) and Budget Justification (Attachment D) for Administration/Management

- F. Project Proposals, including a Budget Breakdown (Attachment C) and Budget Justification (Attachment D) for each Project
- G. Budget Summary (Attachment E)

Attachment C (Budget Breakdown), Attachment D (Budget Justification) and Attachment E (Budget Summary) should be considered worksheets. During the proposal submission process, data for Attachments C and D will be entered into a form on the website. Upon completion of the submission process, the actual Attachments will be generated from these form entries and bundled with your application package. The application system will generate Attachment E automatically by compiling information from the budget breakdown forms for all of the projects.

IX. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Each application must be submitted through the website at <https://niwr.net/> and shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with the specific instructions provided at that site. Submission will require two distinctly different actions: (1) submission of specified information as text directly into a Web form and (2) "depositing" at the website document files containing detailed descriptions of the work being proposed. These files may be prepared using the word processing software of choice, but must be translated to PDF format prior to being deposited **(detailed instructions for preparing and submitting these files, and verifying their submission are provided at the website).**

Applications must contain the following sections and adhere to the following guidelines:

The first three sections of the application, below, (Application for Federal Assistance, Assurances, and Matching Funds Commitment Letter) are to be signed and:

1. Scanned and uploaded to niwr.net following the instructions on that website.
2. **Note: Copies of the original signed documents need only be uploaded to niwr.net at the time of submission of the application; they need NOT be mailed to the USGS. Please be sure that the scanned documents are legible.**

A. Application for Federal Assistance, SF 424. (Attachment A) The SF 424 shall be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant.

B. Assurances (Attachment B). The Assurances shall be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant.

C. Matching Funds Commitment Letter. The applicant shall provide an institutional cost-sharing agreement (letter) signed by an official authorized to commit the applicant to all or part of the matching share or a third party, in-kind contribution signed by an official authorized to commit the third party.

D. Description of Program Management and Administration

At this section of the website, please provide or correct the following information in the Web form presented by the site:

1. Institute Director. Name, academic rank, email address and phone number.
2. Administrative Personnel. Name, academic rank or title, email address and phone number of other principals involved in administration of the program, if any.
3. Budget Breakdown, as requested by the Web form (See Attachment C).
4. Budget Justification, as requested by the Web form (See Attachment D).
5. Program and Management Overview, in the space provided by the Web form.

E. Project Proposals. (Includes research, education, information transfer, and information management system proposals. "Graduate Fellowship" and "Seed Grant" projects must each be entered as **separate** research proposals if they support research.)

Each proposal shall consist of the following 20 elements. Items numbered 1 through 12 are to be entered in the Web form provided at the website.

1. Title. Concise but descriptive.
2. Project Type. Choose from the following: Research, Information Transfer, Information Management System, Education, or Other (please specify).
3. Focus Categories. Choose a maximum of three focus categories from the list provided (Attachment F), with the most preferred focus category first.
4. Research Category. Choose from the following the one category that most closely applies: Social Sciences, Ground-water Flow and Transport, Water Quality, Biological Sciences, Engineering, or Climate and Hydrologic Processes.
5. Keywords. Enter keywords of your choice descriptive of the work.
6. Start Date. Enter the actual beginning date for the project.
7. End Date. Enter the estimated end date for the project.
8. Principal investigator(s). Provide name, academic rank, university, email address and phone number of the principal investigators.
9. Congressional District of the university where the work is to be conducted.
10. Abstract. Provide a brief (one-page) description of the problem, methods, and objectives in the space provided at the Internet site.

11. Budget Breakdown, as requested by the Web form (See Attachment C).

12. Budget Justification, as requested by the Web form (See Attachment D).

Items 13 through 20 are to be "deposited" as a file document in PDF format at the website. Note: This document shall not exceed 10 single-spaced pages - 12 point font, exclusive of resumes (item 20). Upon submission of your application components, the entire package will be available in PDF format for your inspection and final approval. You are responsible for verifying the approval, including compliance with the 10-page limit. If editing is required, you must edit the problem document(s) using your word processor and resubmit that application component.

13. Title. Please use the same title as was entered in the Web form under item 1, above.

14. Statement of regional or State water problem. Include an explanation of the need for the project, who wants it, and why.

15. Statement of results or benefits. Specify the type of information that is to be gained and how it will be used.

16. Nature, scope, and objectives of the project, including a timeline of activities.

17. Methods, procedures, and facilities. Provide enough information to permit evaluation of the technical adequacy of the approach to satisfy the objectives.

18. 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.

19. Training potential. Estimate the number of graduate and undergraduate students, by degree level, who are expected to receive training in the project.

20. Investigator's qualifications. Include resume(s) of the principal investigator(s). No resume shall exceed two pages or list more than 15 pertinent publications.

F. Budget Summary (See Attachment E). The application system will generate this form automatically by compiling information from the budget breakdown forms for all of the projects.

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

TECHNICAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. The recipient shall prepare an Annual Program Report summarizing its activities during the reporting period under its base grant, national competitive grant program awards for which it

is the lead institute NIWR-USGS Internships, and supplemental awards funded either by the USGS or by pass-through funds from another Federal agency. **The reporting period for the annual program is March 1 through February 28.**

- B.** The Annual Program Report is to be filed on the Internet at <https://niwr.net/> by May 31 of each year. The report for the program awards, internship awards and supplemental awards should be filed within 90 days after the completion date of the individual award.
- C. The Annual Program Report** for each Institute shall consist of the following components and shall be in the format specified in the Annual Report guidelines provided at <https://niwr.net/>.
- (1) **RESEARCH:** A synopsis of each ongoing research project and of each research project completed during the reporting period. This includes projects funded under the base grant and the National Competitive Grant Program, as well as projects supported by supplemental grants funded by the USGS and other Federal agencies. Include only those National Competitive Grant Program projects for which you are the lead institute.
 - (2) **PUBLICATIONS:** A list of all reports published during the reporting period as a result of projects supported with section 104 and required matching funds, including base grants and National Competitive Grant awards for which you are the lead institute, and as a result of supplemental awards.
 - (3) **INFORMATION TRANSFER PROGRAM:** A brief description of information transfer activities supported with section 104 and required matching funds during the reporting period.
 - (4) **STUDENT SUPPORT:** A summary of the number of students supported with section 104 and required matching funds, including the base grant and National Competitive Grant Program awards for which you are the lead institute. Report, also, the number of students supported under the NIWR-USGS Student Internship Program and other supplemental awards during the reporting period.
 - (5) **STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM:** A Student Evaluation of Internship at the U.S. Geological Survey for each student who completed an internship during the reporting period.
 - (6) **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS:** Provide a brief description of any especially notable achievements and awards resulting from work supported with section 104 and required matching funds and by supplemental grants during the reporting period.
- D.** Supplemental awards may require progress reports; this requirement will be stated within the award document.

CASH MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Annual Financial Reports.

The recipient will submit annual STANDARD FORM 425, FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT(S) for each individual USGS award. The SF 425 is available at - http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_forms. The SF 425 will be due ninety (90) calendar days after the grant year (i.e., 12 months after the approved effective date of the grant agreement and every 12 months thereafter until the expiration date of the grant agreement). USGS acknowledges that this annual reporting schedule may not always correspond with a specific budget period. The SF 425 must be submitted electronically through the FedConnect Message Center (www.fedconnect.net). If after 90 days, recipient has not submitted a report, the recipient's account in ASAP will be placed in a manual review status until the report is submitted.

2. Final Financial Report.

a. The recipient will liquidate all obligations incurred under the award and submit a final STANDARD FORM 425, FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT through FedConnect (www.fedconnect.net) no later than 90 calendar days after the grant/cooperative agreement completion date. The SF 425 is available at - http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_forms. Recipient will promptly return any unexpended federal cash advances or will complete a final draw from ASAP to obtain any remaining amounts due. Once 120 days has passed since the grant/agreement completion date, the ASAP subaccount for this award may be closed by USGS at any time.

b. Subsequent revision to the final SF 425 will be considered only as follows -

- (i) When the revision results in a balance due to the Government, the recipient must submit a revised final Federal Financial Report (SF 425) and refund the excess payment whenever the overcharge is discovered, no matter how long the lapse of time since the original due date of the report.
- (ii) When the revision represents additional reimbursable costs claimed by the recipient, a revised final SF 425 may be submitted to the Contracting Officer with an explanation. If approved, the USGS will either request and pay a final invoice or reestablish the ASAP subaccount to permit the recipient to make a revised final draw. Any revised final report representing additional reimbursable amounts must be submitted no later than 1 year from the due date of the original report, i.e., 15 months following the agreement completion date. USGS will not accept any revised SF 425 covering additional expenditures after that date and will return any late request for additional payment to the recipient.

Budget Breakdown

Attachment C

BUDGET BREAKDOWN*

Project Number: (Number will be provided by the application system)

Project Title:

Cost Category	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
1. Salaries and Wages	\$	\$	\$
- Principal Investigator(s) _____			
- Graduate Student(s) _____			
- Undergraduate Student(s) _____			
- Others _____			
Total Salaries and Wages			
2. Fringe Benefits			
- Principal Investigator(s) _____			
- Graduate Student(s) _____			
- Undergraduate Student(s) _____			
- Others _____			
Total Fringe Benefits			
3. Tuition			
- Graduate Student(s) _____			
- Undergraduate Student(s) _____			
Total Tuition			
4. Supplies			
5. Equipment			
6. Services or Consultants			
7. Travel			
8. Other direct costs			
9. Total direct costs			
10a. Indirect costs on federal share	XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX		
10b. Indirect costs on non-federal share	XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXX		
11. Total estimated costs	\$	\$	\$
Total Costs at Campus of the University on which the Institute or Center is located.	\$	\$	\$
Total Costs at other University Campus Name of University:	\$	\$	\$

* This form is provided as a worksheet only

Budget Justification
BUDGET JUSTIFICATION*

Project Number: (Number will be provided by the application system)

Project Title

Salaries and Wages for PIs. Provide personnel, title/position, estimated hours and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual.
Salaries and Wages for Graduate Students. Provide personnel, title/position, estimated hours and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual. (Other forms of compensation paid as or in lieu of wages to students performing necessary work are allowable provided that the other payments are reasonable compensation for the work performed and are conditioned explicitly upon the performance of necessary work. Also, note that tuition has its own category below and that health insurance, if provided, is to be included under fringe benefits.)
Salaries and Wages for Undergraduate Students. Provide personnel, title/position, estimated hours and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual. (Other forms of compensation paid as or in lieu of wages to students performing necessary work are allowable provided that the other payments are reasonable compensation for the work performed and are conditioned explicitly upon the performance of necessary work. Also, note that tuition has its own category below and that health insurance, if provided, is to be included under fringe benefits.)
Salaries and Wages for Others. Provide personnel, title/position, estimated hours and the rate of compensation proposed for each individual.
Fringe Benefits for PIs. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. . Note: include health insurance here, if applicable.
Fringe Benefits for Graduate Students. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. Note: include health insurance here, if applicable.
Fringe Benefits for Undergraduate Students. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. Note: include health insurance here, if applicable
Fringe Benefits for Others. Provide the overall fringe benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project. . Note: include health insurance here, if applicable.
Tuition for Graduate Students.
Tuition for Undergraduate Students
Supplies. Indicate separately the amounts proposed for office, laboratory, computing, and field supplies. Provide a breakdown of the supplies in each category.
Equipment. Identify non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one (1) year and an acquisition cost of more than \$5,000 per unit. If fabrication of equipment is proposed, list parts and materials required for each, and show costs separately from the other items. A detailed breakdown is required.
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.
Travel. Provide purpose and estimated costs for all travel. A breakdown should be provided to include location, number of personnel, number of days, per diem rate, lodging rate, mileage and mileage rate, airfare (whatever is applicable).
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.
Indirect Costs. Provide negotiated indirect ("Facilities and Administration") cost rate.

* This form is provided as a worksheet only.

BUDGET SUMMARY*

Project Number							All Projects	
Principal Investigator								
Cost Category	Federal	Non-Federal	Federal	Non-Federal	Federal	Non-Federal	Federal	Non-Federal
Salaries and Wages								
Fringe Benefits								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Services or Consultants								
Travel								
Other Costs								
Total Direct Costs								
Indirect Costs								
Total Estimated Costs								

* This form is provided as a worksheet only. The application system will generate this form automatically by compiling information from the budget breakdown forms for all of the projects.

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

Federal Award Identifiers

Institute	Federal Award Identifier
Alabama	G11AP20063
Alaska	G11AP20064
Arizona	G11AP20065
Arkansas	G11AP20066
California	G11AP20121
Colorado	G11AP20068
Connecticut	G11AP20069
Delaware	G11AP20071
DC	G11AP20070
Florida	G11AP20072
Georgia	G11AP20073
Guam	G11AP20074
Hawaii	G11AP20075
Idaho	G11AP20076
Illinois	G11AP20077
Indiana	G11AP20078
Iowa	G11AP20079
Kansas	G11AP20080
Kentucky	G11AP20081
Louisiana	G11AP20082
Maine	G11AP20083
Maryland	G11AP20084
Massachusetts	G11AP20085
Michigan	G11AP20086
Minnesota	G11AP20087
Mississippi	G11AP20088
Missouri	G11AP20089

Attachment G

Institute	Federal Award Identifier
Montana	G11AP20090
Nebraska	G11AP20091
Nevada	G11AP20092
New Hampshire	G11AP20093
New Jersey	G11AP20094
New Mexico	G11AP20095
New York	G11AP20096
North Carolina	G11AP20097
North Dakota	G11AP20098
Ohio	G11AP20099
Oklahoma	G11AP20100
Oregon	G11AP20101
Pennsylvania	G11AP20102
Puerto Rico	G11AP20103
Rhode Island	G11AP20104
South Carolina	G11AP20105
South Dakota	G11AP20106
Tennessee	G11AP20107
Texas	G11AP20108
Utah	G11AP20109
Vermont	G11AP20110
Virginia	G11AP20111
Virgin Islands	G11AP20112
Washington	G11AP20113
West Virginia	G11AP20114
Wisconsin	G11AP20115
Wyoming	G11AP20116

