

Water Resources 104B Grant Program

The University of Arizona's Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) is accepting proposals for research grants under the Water Resources Research Act, Section 104B. Funded by the U.S. Geological Survey, Section 104B provides support for small research projects on water-related issues of importance to the state and region. The WRRC usually funds three to five small grants of about \$10,000 to \$12,000. Projects are funded for 12 months.

Only faculty members at the three Arizona state universities may submit proposals. Researchers in any of the social, biological, physical, or engineering sciences, and other fields such as public health, water law, economics and water management are invited to apply. The start date for funded projects is March 1, 2006.

The WRRC will convene an external review committee which will review all proposals. In addition, each proposal will be reviewed by reviewers experienced in the field of the proposal. The WRRC will make final award decisions on the basis of this input and available funding.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Deadline is 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 14, 2005

Submission Procedure:

1. Proposals will be accepted only through the Internet site at <http://niwr.org/>.
2. Applicants must be registered on the site, and may do so by going to the site and clicking on "Registration" on the menu. To submit a proposal through the site, click on "Add New Proposal". The system requires that certain basic project information be entered directly and that the text of the proposal be uploaded in .PDF format.
3. In addition to submitting the proposal on-line, you must submit to WRRC one electronic version and 20 hard copies of the proposal containing the 19 elements required on the attached list. Signed paperwork as described below must also be submitted to the WRRC.
 - Budget and detailed justification (form attached, justify each item on another page).
 - Cost sharing commitment letter (2 to 1: non-federal to federal \$. Federal dollars may not be used for matching funds, see below). This letter must be signed by your chairman, dean or authorized university representative.
 - For U of A – Provide an unsigned Proposal Routing Sheet.
 - Negotiated Indirect Rate Agreement for your institution if not U of A.
 - For U of A – A signed Proposal Routing Sheet will be required from those projects that are awarded grants.

Funding Information/Selection Criteria:

Proposals should be for projects of 12 months in duration and are recommended at about \$10,000 to \$12,000 in federal funding. A 2:1 match of non-federal to federal dollars is required. Indirect costs are not allowed on the federal cost category (Public law 101-397,

Water Research Institutes Authorization). However, indirect costs may be used to provide part of the matching requirement, i.e., you may use the indirect costs computed for federal funds as part of the non- federal match, and indirect costs are allowed on the non-federal funds.

Selection Criteria:

1. **Project Merit.** Does the proposed project have potential to expand the fundamental knowledge in its specific area? Is it scientifically and technically sound? Are investigators cognizant of past work? Is the proposal well written, organized, and complete?
2. **Educational Opportunity for Students.** Does the proposal offer a useful educational experience for students (graduate or undergraduate)?
3. **Applicability to the State's Needs.** Does the proposal directly address research topics of significance to Arizona?
4. **Feasibility.** Are the objectives, methodologies, designs, and techniques adequately described? What is the likelihood of success given the methods and time frame proposed? Will the expected results lend themselves to a more comprehensive proposal with additional funding?
5. **Researcher Qualifications.** Are the qualifications of the investigators commensurate with the proposed research?

RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The proposals consist of the following 19 elements. Please keep in mind that items numbered 1 through 11 will be entered on the Web form provided at the NIWR Website.

The proposals shall consist of the following 15 elements:

1. Title. Concise but descriptive.
2. Project Type. Research or Education.
3. Focus Categories. List a maximum of three focus categories, with the most preferred focus category first. A list of the focus categories is provided in Exhibit 1. Enter the abbreviations, in capital letters as provided, for the categories and separate them with commas.
4. Keywords. Enter keywords of your choice descriptive of the work.
5. Start Date. Enter the actual beginning date for the project.
6. End Date. Enter the estimated ending date for the project.
7. Principal Investigator(s). Provide name, academic rank, university, email address and phone number of the principal investigators.
8. Congressional District of the university where the work is to be done.
9. Abstract. Provide a brief (one-page) description of the problem, methods, and objectives

in the space provided on the Internet site.

10. Budget Breakdown, as requested by the Web form.

11. Budget Justification, as requested by the Web form.

Items 12 through 19 are to be “deposited” as a file document in PDF format on the website. **Note: This document shall not exceed 10 single-spaced pages – 12 point font, exclusive of resumes** (item 19).

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

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

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

15. Nature, scope, and objectives of the research, including a timetable of activities.

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

17. Related research. (Research projects only) Show by literature and communication citations the similarities and dissimilarities of the proposed project to completed or on-going research on the same topic.

18. Training potential. Estimate the number and level of graduate and undergraduate students, by field of study and degrees, that are expected to receive training in the project.

19. Investigator's qualifications. Include a resume(s) of the principal investigator(s). **No resume shall exceed three pages.**

DO NOT FILL OUT FORMS UNDER THE LAST SECTION OF THE WEB APPLICATION. The section marked PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION (FOR INSTITUTE DIRECTORS & STAFF) will be completed by the Water Resources Research Center.

Please note that the procedure for logging into the NIWR 104B Webpage (and all other subsystems) has been changed for security reasons. The procedure is now as follows:

Go to <https://niwr.org/>

If not registered on the system, click on "Registration" under "Tools" on the menu on the left side of the page. If already registered, go directly to the next step.

If registered, click on "Log in to ERAS subsystems" under "Enter NIWR Systems" on the menu.

Click on "104B System" under "Enter NIWR Systems" on the menu.

If you have any questions about the use of the 104B system to accept your proposals, please contact Kamie Redinbo (kamie@niwr.org).

For more information:

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