



JUNE 2018 – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program Small Research Grants

Program Description: The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program (IISG) has limited funds to invest in promising research projects relevant to southern Lake Michigan and surrounding coastal communities. For 2018, IISG will invest in projects that would benefit from “seed” or “completion” funds. Funding can be used:

- To conduct preliminary investigations that will facilitate an expanded proposal to another funding source (seed projects).
- To pursue questions that arose during a previous study and, if investigated, will provide key information that could bridge the gap between research and societal impacts, e.g. behavior change, policy change (completion projects).

Projects should focus on one or more of the following topic areas:

- Aquaculture
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Coastal Restoration
- Contaminants (Legacy or Emerging)
- Crude Oil Transport
- Ecosystem Resiliency
- Fisheries
- Land Use Planning
- Sustainable Communities
- Tourism and Recreation
- Water Quality
- Water Supply

Pending receipt of federal funds, IISG anticipates funding a variety of projects, including but not limited to field or laboratory studies, social science assessments, economic cost-benefit analyses, and modeling efforts.

We anticipate funding up to five (5) projects. Proposals will be reviewed by a combination of experts, both internal (to IISG) and external. A sample peer-review form can be found [here](#). Provided that enough proposals are of sufficient quality and scientific rigor, efforts will be made to spread funds across topic areas and institutions. Prospective PIs can find examples of previously funded research projects here: <http://iiseagrant.org/research.php>.

Investigators may request up to \$10,000 from IISG and must provide at least 50 percent match in non-federal funds (see 90-4 form instructions for details). Funding will be provided for one year beginning October 1, 2018, or the date of the award, and projects should be completed by September 30, 2019.

Eligibility: Project investigators from educational or research institutions in Illinois or Indiana, including universities, museums, and other NGOs, are eligible for these funds.

Proposal Submission: Proposals should be submitted by 5 p.m. CDT (6 p.m. EDT) July 23, 2018 to iisgres@purdue.edu. Please indicate “2018 Small Grant Proposal” in the subject line.

Application Components

Include in your submission the following required documents. This list below can also be found at http://iiseagrant.org/funding_development.php.

- 1) **90-2 Project Summary (Long) Form*** – Download and submit as an Excel form
- 2) **Proposal Narrative** – Submit as a PDF, no smaller than 11-point font, four pages maximum including figures, tables, and references. The Proposal Narrative should detail a) the problem (or critical informational uncertainty) to be addressed by the project tied to a specific IISG topic area, b) the impact of the problem, c) methods to address the problem, and d) expected results and project area impacts. This narrative should include a timeline for the project, including steps taken after project completion (i.e., submission to larger grant agency for seed funds; sharing of information for completion funds).
- 3) **Data Management Plan (where applicable)** – Submit as PDF, no smaller than 11-point font, two pages maximum. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration requires that all environmental data (see full definition [here](#)) from funded projects be verified and made accessible, free of charge, or at no more than the cost of reproduction, within two years of completion of the project. To be considered for Sea Grant funds, researchers should outline how their data will be shared and maintained. The contents of the Data Management Plan (or absence thereof), and past performance regarding such plans, will be considered as part of proposal review. If a project does not generate environmental data, include this information in the 90-2 Project Summary Form (Long).
- 4) **Abbreviated Environmental Compliance Questionnaire*** – Download this as a Word document and submit it as a PDF.
- 5) **90-4 Budget Form* plus Budget Narrative** – Investigators can request up to \$10,000 from IISG for projects, but must provide at least 50 percent non-federal matching funds (e.g., \$10,000 IISG + \$5,000 match = at least \$15,000 total for projects). Investigators who can provide greater than 50 percent match are invited to do so. Investigators should budget for the negotiated federal indirect costs rates for their home institutions.
- 6) **Investigator Bio-Sketch** – Include a maximum two-page bio-sketch or CV for each investigator.
- 7) **Purdue University Letter of Intent and Entity Profile forms*** – Including these will speed up processing of awards for successful applicants.

*Form templates for items 1, 4 and 5 can be found via the National Sea Grant Office here: <https://seagrant.noaa.gov/insideseagrant/Forms-and-Templates>. Templates for item 7 can be found here: http://iiseagrant.org/funding_development.php. Questions related to these forms should be directed to Carolyn Foley at Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (cfoley@purdue.edu).

Key Project Deliverables

- 1) Seed projects should result in an expanded proposal submitted to another funding agency based on data or information generated from the project award.
- 2) Completion projects should be combined with other findings to achieve a long-term, demonstrated impact for a course of study.

Reporting Requirements: All project investigators are required to submit an annual financial and technical report by January 31 of each year the project is active, regardless of the status of the project. Final reports should be submitted within 30 days of the project's conclusion. Full guidelines for project reporting can be found here:

http://iiseagrant.org/pdf/IISG_GuidelinesProjectReporting.pdf.

Questions regarding eligibility or submission requirements may be directed to Carolyn Foley at cfoley@purdue.edu or by phone at 765-494-3601.