

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE UNM SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES GRAND CHALLENGE SEED GRANT

Overview and Aims of the Sustainable Water Resources Grand Challenge:

Water management in New Mexico has always been a grand challenge. We have the fifth largest landmass of all the states but the least amount of available surface water. Challenges include variations in annual water supplies; impacts from weather and climate change; ecosystem degradation; and diverse populations. All can impact the sustainability of our water supply. Please see the Sustainable Water Resources Grand Challenge's website for guidance on research questions that are suitable for this call. The website is available here:

<https://grandchallenges.unm.edu/three-grand-challenges/sustainable-water-resources/index.html>

The goal of this seed grant program is to promote new collaborations of interdisciplinary researchers that will lead to external funding.

Request for Proposals: We request research proposals for seed funding, focusing on the grand challenge of sustainable water resources, that will lead to external funding opportunities and, ultimately, will contribute to our sustainable water future.

We anticipate awarding up to four grants, up to \$10,000 each.

Requirements: Representation from at least two UNM main campus, HSC, or branch campus departments or units is required. The lead Principal Investigator (PI) must be eligible to serve as a PI on a federal award for UNM. The co-PI must be a full-time UNM employee and reside in a different department or unit from the lead. Members of the Sustainable Water Resources Grand Challenge leadership team are not eligible to apply.

The successful applicants are required to make a mid-project progress presentation to the leadership team to provide an overview of progress, anticipated outcomes, as well as any unexpected challenges. A final written project report is required within one month of the official end of the project.

The period of the award will be January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Any unexpended funds will be returned to the Sustainable Water Resources Grand Challenge index.

Format of Proposal: Proposals must be submitted as a single PDF file, using a standard font in 11 point or larger, with one-inch margins. A maximum of 3 pages, excluding the budget, references, and NSF-style, two-page bio for each PI is allowed but must include the information below. Proposals that exceed the page limits, or do not include the required materials will not be reviewed.

1. Proposal Cover Page Must Include (Cannot exceed one page):
 - Proposal Title
 - Lead Investigator, Co-Investigator(s), departments/organization, and all contact information
 - Project Start and End Dates and Total Amount Requested
 - Proposal Abstract: maximum 250 words
2. Project Description must include (Cannot exceed two pages)
 - Statement of research focus area/problem
 - Description of the collaboration, including each collaborator's contribution to the project
 - Data, methodology, and analysis plan to complete the project
 - Resources required for the successful completion of the project
 - Student involvement, if applicable
 - Community participation, if applicable
 - Description of expected outcomes and their tie to the goals of the Sustainable Water Resources Grand Challenge.
 - Specific external grant program(s) targeted
 - Timeline for the completion of the project and submission of a proposal for external funds

In addition to the above, a complete application **must include** (in this order; not counted in the 3 pages):

3. References cited in Project Description
4. A one-page budget and budget justification (cannot include faculty salaries)
5. An NSF-style two-page biosketch for each PI/Co-PI
6. Current and pending support for each PI/Co-PI
7. If IRB approval is required for the research, this must be acknowledged at the end of the application. The IRB application can be made after notice of the award, but must be secured before the funding is awarded.

The PI and Co-PI must have a current UNM Financial Conflict of Interest disclosure.

Award: Upon selection, funds (according to the approved proposal budget) will be transferred to a newly created index in the lead PI's department or unit. The PI will have responsibility for following UNM policies and procedures to administer all funds and must be certain over-expenditures do not occur. The lead PI's department or unit will be responsible for any over-expenditures.

Budget: Proposed budgets cannot include faculty salary or compensation. Salary for students, post docs, and technicians is allowable. Funds may be budgeted for supplies, research-related travel (not for conferences), and other research costs. Do not include F&A.

Proposal Review: Proposals will be reviewed by the multi-disciplinary Sustainable Water Resources Grand Challenge leadership team. Evaluation criteria will include:

- Significance and merit of the proposed research in contributing to the success of this grand challenge
- Appropriateness of described collaboration, methods, data, and analysis to complete the project
- The qualifications of PI's
- Likelihood of leading to extramural funding

In addition, proposals that include any of the following are especially encouraged:

- Inclusion of student researchers
- Community participation
- New collaborations

Complete applications must be submitted no later than November 14, 2019 to gcwater@unm.edu with the subject line "Water Grand Challenge Seed Grant Application."

We anticipate informing successful applicants during the week of December 2, 2019. Project start dates are expected to be on or after January 1, 2020. Projects must be completed no later than December 31, 2020.

Questions should be directed to gcwater@unm.edu.