



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
MISSISSIPPI WATER RESOURCES
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Request for Pre-Proposals

Fiscal Year 2024

Under Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended

Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute

Mississippi State University

2745 West Line Road, Mississippi State, MS 39762

(662) 325-3295

keri.lewis@msstate.edu

Pre-Proposals Due: Oct. 31, 2022, 5 p.m. CST

The Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute funds annual water-related projects through the U.S. Geological Survey 104b program. This document contains application requirements for fiscal year 2024. Period of Performance: Sept. 1, 2023-Aug. 31, 2024.

MWRRI is soliciting faculty research pre-proposals that include graduate-level student research with budgets up to \$35,000. Budgets must include a 1-to-1 cost-share/match. Pre-proposals selected by the MWRRI advisory board will be invited to submit a full proposal, which may require additional information or modifications and are not guaranteed funding.

Please contact MWRRI with questions. Past projects can be found online at <https://water.usgs.gov/wrri>.

Keri Lewis

keri.lewis@msstate.edu

662-325-3295

1. Eligibility

Any faculty member or affiliate at an institution of higher education in the State of Mississippi can apply. Federal employees are NOT eligible as a principal investigator and cannot receive federal funding but can participate as a co-investigator.

2. Types of Pre-Proposals

We are soliciting faculty research pre-proposals that include graduate-level student research.

3. Funding and Match Requirements (1:1)

Funding is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Based on federal appropriations, funding amounts and timelines may be adjusted. All pre-proposals must match each federal dollar with one non-federal dollar, or a 1:1 cost-share/match. Total budget before cost-share/match should not exceed \$35,000.

Examples of non-federal funding sources:

- Non-federal salaries, wages, and benefits.
- Indirect costs on the non-federal matching funds.
- Waived indirect costs on the federal funds request, except on equipment and tuition; indirect costs (F&A) are not allowable in the federal funds request.
- Other sources of non-federal funds may be allowable. If requesting cost-share/match funds from sources not listed above, contact MWRRRI staff to ensure these funds comply with USGS regulations.

All funds must be used during the stated project period.

4. MWRRRI 104b Program Objectives

Preference will be given to pre-proposals that align with the institute's objectives, including projects that:

- Feature applied research that addresses water quality and quantity challenges.
- Provide graduate-level student training and support.
- Publish results in peer-reviewed scientific literature and transfer information to stakeholders and the public.
- Support early career faculty in water research and preliminary data.
- Address water-related emergencies and conflicts, or contaminant transport.

5. Research Areas of Particular Interest

The Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute is soliciting proposals that address at least one of the seven Vision Focus Areas for 2020-2030 as outlined by USGS:

- Water scarcity and availability.
- Water-related hazards and climate variability.
- Water quality.
- Water policy, planning, and socioeconomics.
- Ecosystem and drainage basin functions.
- Water technology and innovation.
- Workforce development and water literacy.

6. Project Reporting Requirements

If selected for funding, you will be required to complete and provide the following:

- Quarterly progress reports.
- An end-of-project year report based on USGS requirements.
- Pictures of you and your team in the field, lab, or at conferences.
- Acknowledgement to both the USGS and MWRRRI when publishing or presenting material related to this 104b-funded project.

7. Pre-Proposal Requirements

Complete all fields on pages 4 and 5, and email as a pdf document along with budget worksheet to Keri Lewis at keri.lewis@msstate.edu no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2022.

Pre-proposals should not exceed 5 single-spaced pages, excluding references, data management plan, investigator's qualifications (CVs), and budget. Prior to submitting your pre-proposal to MWRRRI, please follow your institution's guidelines for internal approval and routing of pre-proposals.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS MAY DISQUALIFY YOUR PRE-PROPOSAL FROM THE SELECTION PROCESS.

Pre-proposals are shared with our advisory board, where members provide review and give guidance on pre-proposal selection.

If your pre-proposal is selected, you will be invited to submit a full proposal. This process may include adequately addressing questions or comments from the reviewers.

Project Title

Investigator's Names and Affiliations

Key Words

Abstract

Provide a brief description of the problem, methods, and objectives in 300 words or less.

Statement of State or Regional Water Problem

Describe the problem and why your research is important and needed. Why should the reviewers want to support your research agenda?

Expected Results and Benefits

Specify what kind of information will be gained, how it will be used, and by who. How is this research innovative? Describe how this work will further the goals of MWRRI and be useful for the State of Mississippi.

Nature, Scope, and Objectives

Identify the objectives and hypotheses of the research project being proposed. Provide a timeline of activities in table format. Your proposed project MUST be completed within the given project period.

Methods, Procedures, and Facilities

Provide detailed information about the methods and equipment you plan to use. Describe the study site location(s) and the laboratory facilities you plan to use. Include enough detail such that reviewers can understand and evaluate the ability of the team to satisfy the stated objectives. Include description of statistical analyses you plan to use to test your hypotheses.

Related Research

Briefly describe the current state of the literature regarding your topic, how you will provide the next level of understanding your topic. Describe the knowledge gap you will address.

Training Potential

List the number of undergraduate, Master's, and PhD level students who will work on this project.

Continuation Funding

Identify if the proposed research is a continuation of a previously funded 104b project.

Additional Funding Plans

List your plans for follow up funding from another source, if applicable.

Information Transfer Plans

List the ways you plan to share this information with researchers, stakeholders, and the public, including anticipated conference attendance and journal submissions. Innovative ways of using social media are highly encouraged.

Data Management Plan

Describe your plan for meeting USGS Data Management requirements, see <https://www.usgs.gov/data-management/data-management-plans>.

References

Granger, H., H. J. Potter and R.B. Weasley. Year published. Title of Article. Name of Journal. Volume (Issue): 9-34.

Investigator's Qualifications

Include investigators' CV, not to exceed 1 page each.

Budget

Institutional budget worksheets may be used for the pre-proposal. Please detail items under supplies, equipment, services, or consultants, travel, and other direct costs. For example: cost per item, travel costs per day (mileage, per diem, hotel), estimated conference costs. Be sure to calculate salary and fringe costs separately. Budget spreadsheets must include 1:1 match. Total budget before cost-share/match should not exceed \$35,000.