



MARCH 2010 – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program Research and Outreach Development and Capacity Building Request for Proposals

Program Description: The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program (IISG) has limited discretionary funds to invest in promising research and outreach projects. For 2010, IISG is especially interested in investing in programs that would benefit from “seed” or “completion” funds, or in graduate students who will use funding to enhance thesis or dissertation research. Funding can be used in one of the following three ways:

- To conduct preliminary data collection that will be used to submit an expanded proposal to another funding source (seed projects);
- For development or implementation of an outreach component that would bridge the gap between research and an impact, e.g. behavior change, policy change (completion projects); and
- To provide support for graduate student research that would improve a thesis or dissertation (graduate student projects).

Up to \$10,000 is available for seed and completion projects. Up to \$6,000 is available for graduate student projects. We anticipate funding 3-6 seed or completion projects and 3-6 graduate student projects depending on how well the proposals meet our objectives, potential for growth, project need and rigor. Funding will be provided for one year beginning June 1, 2010.

All projects should focus on one of our ten core topic areas (visit http://www.iiseagrant.org/research/topics_research.html for more information on these core topic areas). The topics include:

- Aquaculture
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Climate Change (especially on Lake Michigan and surrounding communities)
- Coastal Restoration
- Fish Consumption
- Great Lakes Health (especially Lake Michigan)
- Land Use Planning
- Pharmaceutical Disposal
- Water Quality
- Water Supply

Eligibility: For seed or completion projects, project investigators from educational or research institutions in Illinois or Indiana are eligible.

For graduate student projects, students enrolled in an educational or research institution of higher learning within Illinois or Indiana are eligible. Funds can be used for supplies or travel directly related to research, but cannot be used to cover stipend, tuition, or fees.

Proposal Submission: For full consideration, proposals should be submitted by COB April 30, 2010 to iisg@illinois.edu. Please indicate “2010 Development Proposal” on the subject line. Required forms are available on request or by visiting <http://www.iiseagrant.org/funding/forms/coreforms.html>.

For proposal consideration, attach in one file the following required documents.

1) 90-2 Project Summary Form - Your completed 90-2 will serve as your project proposal.

After the title indicate if you are applying for a seed, completion or graduate student grant. The project summary form should detail a) the problem (or critical informational uncertainty) to be addressed by the project tied to a specific IISG strategic objective; b) a rationale for why your proposed project is needed c) methods you will use to address the problem; d) key project deliverables (see description below) and, e) expected results and impacts your project will have on coastal resources, clients, or communities. Not all fields requested at the top of the Program Summary Form are applicable to program development funding, therefore, only fill out the items which are appropriate. For questions, contact Lisa Merrifield, IISG Assistant Director at lmorrisn@illinois.edu or call 217-333-0045.

The Project Summary Form should not exceed four pages in length.

2) 90-4 Budget Form and Narrative - Required format

Researchers can request up to \$10,000 for seed and completion proposals. Graduate students can request up to \$6,000. Budgets must be submitted on the 90-4 form. Narratives should be included to describe expenses.

Note: match is not required; however, investigators should budget for the negotiated federal indirect cost rates for their home institutions.

3) Investigator bio-sketch – Include a maximum two-page bio-sketch or CV for each investigator demonstrating sufficient expertise and a history of sponsored-project completion, including publication.

Graduate students proposals should also include:

- 1) Unofficial transcripts for graduate student
- 2) Letter of support from major professor

Key Project Deliverables– all development projects should meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) Seed Projects must result in an expanded proposal submitted to another funding agency based on data/information generated from the project award. Development funds can be used to collect pilot data, assemble a research team, support writing and proposal development efforts;



- 2) Completion projects must conduct a final needed step to bring former research to publication, completion, or to realize impact and/or implementation of past research.
- 3) Graduate student projects should demonstrate how this grant will improve the student's dissertation or thesis project in a tangible way.

Final Reporting Requirements – All project investigators are required to submit a final project report within 30 days of the project's conclusion.

Final seed or completion project reports should include the following information:

- Program accomplishments including significant research findings, proposals submitted, students supported, publications, presentations at conferences, workshops, and collaborations formed;
- Impacts resulting from the project;
- Future activities that will result from this development project including research publications, workshops, leveraged dollars, and supported students; and
- Seed projects should describe information or data generated by the IISG development award and describe the proposal submitted, including the source and level of funding requested.

Final graduate student reports should include the following information:

- Description of the research project's accomplishments including: significant research findings; publications, and presentations at conferences and workshops; general impacts of the research; and,
- Description of how the funds improved the dissertation or thesis project.

Questions regarding eligibility or pre-proposal requirements may be directed to the IISG Assistant Director at lmorrisn@uiuc.edu or 217-333-0045.