
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

November 1, 2017

TO: Faculty at Georgia Universities
FROM: Professor A.P. Georgakakos, Director, Georgia Water Resources Institute
SUBJECT: Request for Proposals (RFP), FY 2018 Water Resources Research Programs 104B

The Georgia Water Resources Institute (GWRI) was advised to proceed with the call for proposals for the 2018 State Research Program (104B), though funds have not yet been appropriated. Research funding is expected by Congressional Appropriation to the Water Resources Institutes through the U.S. Geological Survey/Department of Interior, with a tentative starting date of March 1, 2018. All faculty members or affiliates at institutions of higher learning in the State of Georgia are eligible and are invited to participate.

Principal Investigators (PIs) are invited to submit electronic proposals at the National Institute for Water Resources (NIWR) website. If you are already registered, you may access the RFP through the following link: https://niwr.net/public/get_RFP/?type=104B. Please note that this RFP is from last year, but may be used as a guide until the FY2018 RFP is officially released. Instructions on how to prepare and submit a proposal are attached. Proposals will be accepted through **noon December 11, 2017**.

Once registered, PIs may log in under the 104B system option and follow the detailed instructions for proposal submission. The submitted proposals will undergo peer review (according to the attached evaluation criteria) and will be ranked by GWRI on the basis of their technical reviews and by Ga EPD for research relevance to the State. Even though funds have not yet been appropriated, GWRI is expecting to fund three research projects at the annual budget level of \$18,000 each. If the appropriated funds cannot cover this level of research, the number of research projects and/or the budget available for each funded project may have to be adjusted. All PIs will be notified of the selection process results by early January 2018 so that GWRI can submit the final application package to NIWR by January 18, 2018. Two-year projects may also be submitted, but second-year funding will depend upon the successful completion of all first-year tasks and will have to be re-evaluated and approved under the competitive selection process of FY 2019. This program carries a mandatory 2:1 matching requirement (**two non-federal dollars for every federal dollar spent**) and does not carry overhead. Please note that any matching funds letters should be signed by officials authorized to make such commitments by the home institution of the PIs.

For questions, please contact the GWRI Assistant Director (Dr. Martin Kistenmacher; 404-385-1820; martink@gatech.edu). Please feel free to share this announcement with others who may be interested in having a research project considered for funding.

With best regards,



Aris Georgakakos
Director, Georgia Water Resources Institute

Proposal Submission Instructions – 104B Program, FY 2018

Please complete the following steps to successfully submit a proposal.

1. All PIs need to create a user account at the following location https://niwr.net/people/registration_form . User accounts from prior years should still be active.
2. On NIWR.net, navigate to the 104b subsystem.
3. Add a new proposal by clicking “Add new proposal.”
4. Follow the steps and fill out the following corresponding web forms. These forms should include:
 - a. Basic Info
 - b. Budget Breakdown
 - c. Budget Justification
 - d. Upload a proposal. The proposal should use formatting that corresponds to the guidelines set in https://niwr.net/public/get_RFP/?type=104B .
 - e. A final proposal package that is generated by the website from the above forms.
 - f. Signed matching funds commitment letters should be directly e-mailed to martink@gatech.edu . Please identify your project number and title in the e-mail.

Notes:

- Proposal packages can be updated up until the submission deadline of noon December 10, 2017. Only the final package will be considered.
- Project start and end dates should be 3/1/2018 and 2/28/2019, respectively.
- Individual PIs do not need to fill out Assurances and SF-424 forms.
- Matching funds commitment letters should be signed by persons authorized to make such commitments. The matched amount should be listed in the letter.
- The Budget justification section should provide sufficient detail:
 - Direct costs should be broken down into monthly salary and the number of months for each person involved in the proposal.
 - Indirect costs should list the indirect cost rate and the amount that the rate is being applied to.
 - Travel expenses should be itemized for each proposed trip and for each category (air plane fares, food, lodging, etc.)
 - Equipment costs should also be itemized.
 - Costs not identified in the above bullets should be broken down into any applicable sub-items.
- The website is maintained by the national office at NIWR. If it appears that there are inconsistencies on the site, please bring them to our attention and we will consult with the national office.

Proposal Evaluation Form – 104B Program, FY 2018

Proposal Title/Author:

Reviewer:

Signature: _____ **Date Reviewed:** _____

_____ Focused objective, scientific merit of methodology, and overall research strategy. **30%**
Comments:

_____ Relevance and potential impact for the State of Georgia. **(30%)**
Comments:

_____ Investigator qualifications record including refereed publications relevant to the proposal, publications from previous GWRI projects, MS/PhD Theses, and other products. **(30%)**
Comments:

_____ Reasonableness of requested budget. **(10%)**
Comments:

_____ ***Total Review Score***

Please use additional sheets if needed and return by regular or electronic mail to:

Professor Aris P. Georgakakos; Director, Georgia Water Resources Institute; School of CEE/Georgia Tech; 790 Atlantic Drive; Atlanta; GA 30332-0355; (404) 894-2240; ageorgak@ce.gatech.edu.