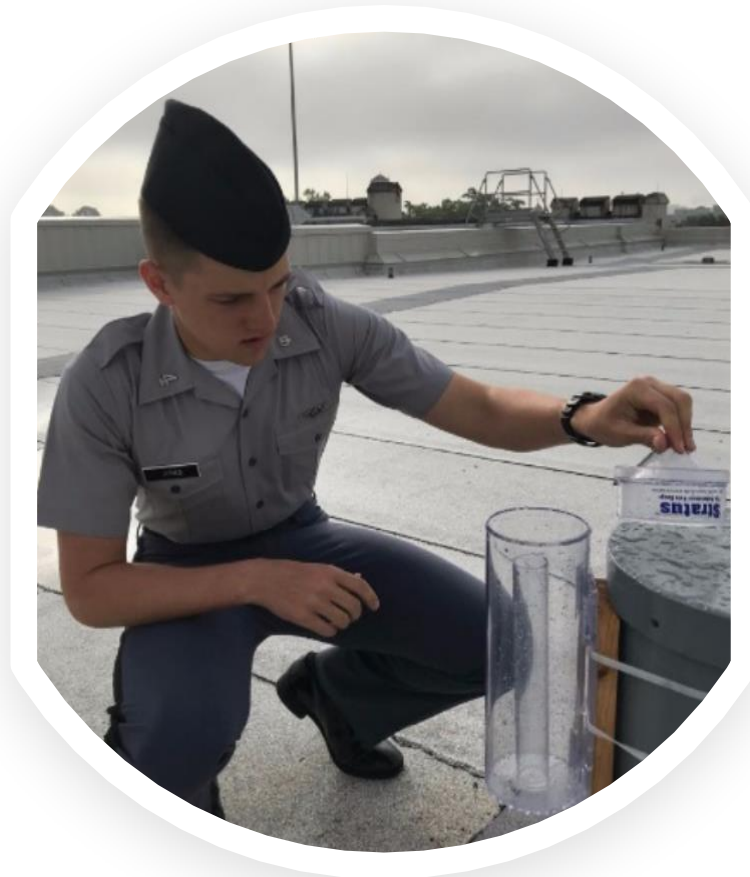


Request for Proposals

Climatological Research Studies Grant (CRSG) 2025



Offered through:

The Citadel Swain Family School of Science and Mathematics (SFSSM)

Supported by:

the Lt Col James B. Near, Jr., USAF, '77 Center for Climate Studies (NCCS)

Release date:

Friday, 22 August 2025

Proposal due date:

Friday, 3 October 2025

The Climatological Research Studies Grant (CRSG)

Goals of Grant

The CRSG will provide support for Citadel faculty members and students in the area of applied climatology research and outreach with an emphasis on (though not limited to) the South Carolina Lowcountry region and surrounding areas. Applied climatology is an interdisciplinary field of study, encompassing a breadth of academic and research programs at The Citadel including, but not limited to: biology, chemistry, meteorology, engineering, environmental science, marine science, oceanography, physics, health, education and social sciences. Grants will be awarded for up to an 18-month period, starting 15 November 2025, with funding amounts of up to \$12,000 per grant.

CRSG Eligibility and Funding

All faculty members and students across all schools within The Citadel are eligible to apply for the CRSG. Citadel students are eligible to serve as the principal investigator (PI) but must work in conjunction with a Citadel faculty member. The faculty member, specified in the proposal, will be expected to mentor the student for the duration of the project. A Citadel faculty member is defined as any person with teaching duties and currently employed by The Citadel, including tenured, tenure-track, visiting professors, instructors, and adjuncts. The faculty member must submit all proposals even if a student is the PI. CRSG funds may be used for research supplies, domestic research travel (e.g., faculty/student presentations at relevant research conferences), participant support costs, production and distribution of educational/outreach materials, conference registration costs, poster printing and journal publication costs. Faculty members and/or external collaborators who teach at public/private

K-12 institutions may request, included as part of the budget, a maximum stipend of \$2,000 per faculty member/collaborator and a maximum of \$6,000 per Citadel student. Student stipends must be calculated on a per hour basis (see budget guidelines). CRSG funds cannot be used for indirect costs or overhead charges, course releases, international travel, computers, or office supplies. Priority will be given to investigators who do not have an active CRSG grant, as well as investigators where the CRSG will help supplement or extend a non-CRSG funded project. This should be explained in the Relevance section of the proposal.

CRSG Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Proposals

Research projects involving multiple departments from across the College may be submitted as individual or collaborative proposals. For example, a group of faculty members from biology, physics, and civil engineering might collaborate on a single proposal to study the impact of contaminants that make their way into local marine environments. Alternatively, depending on the scope, the biologist might propose a study examining the impact of contaminants on marine life, while the physicist and engineer might propose separate but complementary studies that interface with the first.

Collaborative proposals will be limited to two independent but linked projects, with a total possible funding amount not to exceed \$24,000.

The advantages of separate, but collaborative proposals include:

- Allowing investigators to focus on their areas of expertise.
- Facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration that may foster better understanding of climate impacts.
- Allowing the development of larger projects with each separate project being supported up to \$12,000

CRSG Topics Encouraged / Discouraged

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ Climate and ecosystems | ✓ Climate and national security |
| ✓ Climate and human health | ✓ Climate and transportation |
| ✓ Climate and business operations | X Climate policy development |
| ✓ Climate monitoring & modeling | X Climate decision support tools |
| ✓ Climate mitigation/adaptation | |
| ✓ Climate risk/vulnerability | |

2025 Specific Priorities

- The Near Center for Climate Studies was awarded a \$15,000 Coastal Community Foundation Healthy Harbors Grant. The focus area is water quality: plastics, bacteria, emerging contaminants, pesticides/herbicides, marsh and land erosion, climate change and climate resilience, and coastal flooding and its implications on public health.
- The Near Center for Climate Studies is developing a partnership with Charleston Community Research to Action Board (CCRAB). They are working with underserved communities in Charleston on flood risk and air quality. Please contact Ms. Najeema Washington to learn more: Najeema.washington@ccrabs.org

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CRSG Proposal Requirements

1. Cover page data will be collected online (see page 5). You will need to provide the proposal title, names of Principal Investigators (PIs), Collaborators, and Students. If the proposal is a separate one in collaborative support of another, list Title for the other proposal. Also include links to online CVs for all the PIs and Collaborators.
2. Proposal Narrative (not to exceed 5 pages, including references but excluding “Results from Previous CRSG Funding”). Proposals should contain the following headings (shown in bold) and address the following points:

- **Project Description:** outline the scope of the work to be completed as well as the specific aims.
- **Relevance:** describe how results from the study will contribute to current knowledge or relevant activity in the field. Also describe the relevance of proposed work to enhancing understanding of regional climate issues.
- **Contribution to Stated Goals:** express how the project contributes to one or more of the following goals: educating tomorrow’s leaders on climate and its impact; understanding climate resiliency and equity issues in South Carolina; educating K-12 teachers on climate change and its impact. Note that NCCS is particularly focused on climate impacts to: i) national security, ii) coastal environment and Infrastructure, iii) human health and wellbeing, and iv) 2025 priorities on page 3.
- **Student Involvement:** describe how Citadel students will be involved and include expected learning outcomes.
- **Collaboration:** If applicable, describe the collaborative effort within The Citadel or external partners and the benefits/necessity of the collaboration to the project. Similarly, if the proposal is collaboratively linked with another, describe the benefit/necessity of having two separate requests for funding. If not applicable, simply write N/A.
- **Personnel:** describe the competency and contributions of the personnel engaged in the project including the benefits of the opportunity to their professional development.
- **Budget:** in table format (see page 6), list all estimated costs and brief justification of each as outlined below under Budget Guidelines.
- **Deliverables:** outline any expected deliverables, including presentations, research publications, education/outreach materials, patents, among others. Include at least one external RFP that the PI will target for submission in 2027 or 2028 related to the outcomes of the project.
- **Results from Previous CRSG Funding** (does not count toward the 5-page limit): If applicable, products (papers, conferences, external funding grants and proposals) as a result of previous CRSG funding should be listed.
- **Project Timeline:** include a project timeline spanning the 18-month period from 15 November 2025 to 15 May 2027.

The Climatological Research Studies Grant (CRSG) 2025

Formatting Guidelines

All proposals MUST adhere to the formatting and justification guidelines below.

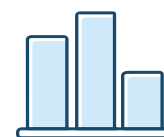
- Proposals must be typed, single-spaced, in English, use a font of at least 12 point (no more than 15 characters-per-inch horizontally and 5.5 lines-per-inch vertically) and use standard 1" margins on all sides.
- Proposals must be submitted as an unlocked and searchable pdf file of less than 10MB.

Budget Guidelines

- Budgets must describe the basis of cost estimates and rationale for each proposed expenditure.
- Students must be budgeted on an hourly basis. For example, if you want to pay a student \$3,600 for the academic year, you could budget \$15 per hour for 8 hours per week for 30 weeks. It is the responsibility of the PI to ensure that the student is performing his/her duties and recording his/her hours in Kronos.
- Fringe must be included for any salary. For 9-month faculty summer pay use 37.31%. For undergraduate students use 2.0%. All others please contact Leigh Lipscomb lipscombl@citadelfoundation.org
- Travel requests must be justified and include the name and location of conference, if applicable. Costs must be broken down by number of travelers, number of days, conference fees, airfare, per diem, misc. expenses, etc.
- Journal publication and other printing costs should be broken down by the number of pages and cost per page and include journal title if applicable.
- **No money may be spent past the end of the grant (May 15 2027). As part of the reporting requirements, PIs must submit all expenditures. The remaining balance will be swept by the NCCS for use on future grants.**

Reporting Requirements

A final project report will be due 15 June 2027, summarizing results, outcomes, and budget expenditures. A form will be provided. Failure to submit a final report will preclude any future funding for the investigators.



The Climatological Research Studies Grant (CRSG) 2025

Submission Deadline

Proposal narrative should be submitted online at: <https://go.citadel.edu/ssm/crsg-requests/> by midnight Friday 3 October 2025.

Questions and Information Session

An information session will be held on 5 September 2025 at 1600-1700 in the Climate Center (Grimsley 126). Questions can also be directed to Scott Curtis (wcurtis1@citadel.edu), Center Director.

Budget Item	Cost	Justification