



CIGLR invites proposals for new partners to join its Regional Consortium of universities, NGOs, and businesses

As one of 16 NOAA-funded Cooperative Institutes across the United States, CIGLR engages academic institutions, non-profit organizations, and private sector businesses in research and development activities that support NOAA's mission to lead applied research involving the nation's weather, oceans, and coastal resources.

Hosted by the School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS) at the University of Michigan, CIGLR is composed of a Research Institute and a Regional Consortium of Partners. CIGLR's Research Institute complements NOAA's workforce with a highly-skilled, permanent group of research scientists, postdoctoral fellows, technicians, and staff that are collocated with our sponsor, the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab (GLERL) in Ann Arbor, Michigan. CIGLR's Regional Consortium is presently composed of nine research universities, three non-governmental organizations, and three businesses that span all five Great Lakes and both sides of the U.S.–Canada border. Successful applicants will join this group to further expand CIGLR's capacity and expertise.

CIGLR Partners agree to abide by uniformly low costs of doing research and operations in the Great Lakes, and they share their infrastructure among all partners in the consortium for the good of Great Lakes research (detailed in the example MOU at the end of this call). In exchange for these conditions, CIGLR's Partners are eligible for a suite of programs that are designed to both enhance their R&D activities in the Great Lakes, and to foster interactions with CIGLR and NOAA-GLERL that lead to future collaborative research:

- Summits and Working Groups (SWGs). CIGLR funds and hosts up to 3 SWGs per year, providing up to \$20K each. Summits convene 20 to 30 experts from Great Lakes universities, NGOs, government agencies, and businesses for short (2-3 day) meetings that summarize the state of knowledge and recommend future research priorities on problems that span decadal time-scales. Working Groups convene smaller groups (8-12) for up to one week to make detailed progress on more narrow Great Lakes issues with solutions on the time scale of months to years.
- Postdoctoral Fellowships. CIGLR provides 1 year of funding (\$70,000) for up to 2 postdoctoral fellows per year who are working with a PI from a Partner institution and a GLERL or CIGLR research scientist. Postdocs must be performing research in the Great Lakes related to NOAA's mission in the Great Lakes. Funding priority is given to University Partners who can provide matching funds. Universities must agree to a reduced IDC rate of 10% to take advantage of these fellowships.
- Graduate Fellowships. CIGLR supports fellowships (\$25,000) for up to 2 graduate students per year at Regional Consortium Partner institutions. Graduate fellows must be performing research

in the Great Lakes related to NOAA's mission and be working in collaboration with both a Regional Consortium Partner PI and a GLERL or CIGLR research scientist. Funds may be used for tuition, stipends, research materials/supplies, or travel. Universities must agree to a reduced IDC rate of 10% to take advantage of these fellowships.

- Summer Fellows Program. CIGLR administers NOAA funding for 8-12 summer internships per year to upper level undergraduate and graduate students to work with CIGLR and GLERL research scientists on Great Lakes research projects. While no direct funding is available, proposals are accepted for fellowship projects that involve co-advising by Partner PIs and NOAA GLERL or CIGLR scientists.
- Rapid Funds. CIGLR provides small grants of up to \$10,000 to Partners who need short-term funds to form an initial response to an emergency or time-sensitive need in the Great Lakes (e.g., Flint water crisis, Toledo water crisis, oil or chemical spills, etc.). Decisions on Rapid proposals can be made internally in 2 days, with awards providing the seed funding researchers need to be 'first-responders' even as they solicit more substantial funds from an appropriate agency or organization.
- ECO Program Support. CIGLR provides ECO Program awards (\$2,000) to support undergraduates, graduate students, or comparable research assistants who incorporate a political engagement, communications, or outreach component into their work. The ECO Program component must highlight the contributions of NOAA, CIGLR, and CIGLR's Regional Consortium Partner institutions to research and management of the Great Lakes. Examples include, but are not limited to, Congressional visits, op-ed articles, K-12 education activities, community outreach events, public education talks, establishment of social media sites or feeds, factsheets, newsletters, or magazines.

Once the aforementioned programs foster research interactions between PIs at Regional Consortium Partner institutions, CIGLR, and NOAA GLERL, CIGLR further provides the financial and logistic support for meetings needed to put together research teams, as well as assistant in the development and submission of new proposals for funding opportunities in NOAA or other organizations.

Proposals. Proposals for new CIGLR Partners are limited to six (6) pages, and must contain all of the parts listed below. Before working on proposals, applicants are strongly encouraged to read [CIGLR's proposal](#) that led to the institute being formed, and to familiarize themselves with [CIGLR](#) and [NOAA GLERL](#)'s research themes.

1. Narrative (1 page). Explain why your institution/organization wants to join CIGLR.
2. Personnel & Expertise (1 page). List individuals in your institution/organization who are most likely to interact with CIGLR and NOAA-GLERL, and describe their discipline and area of expertise. Please limit this list to no more than 15 individuals, prioritizing those who have work ongoing in the Great Lakes, or who work on themes that are closely related to those of CIGLR or NOAA-GLERL. A tabular summary like the example below would be a good way to summarize personnel and their expertise.

Example Personnel & Expertise Table

Name	Category					Discipline	Expertise	Link to webpage or profile
	Natural Science	Social Science	Engineering & Design	Humanities	Other			
Jane Doe	X					Ecology	N and P bio-geochemistry	URL
John Doe		X				Environmental economics	Use of hedonic pricing to value water quality	URL

3. R&D Emphases (1 page). Describe two to three areas of Research and/or Development in the Great Lakes in which your institution/organization excels. Please focus on describing the collective strengths of your institution/organization (not individuals), and be clear about how these strengths would complement or expand the expertise and impact of CIGLR.
4. Resources (1 page). Describe any resources your institution/organization will offer for the good of Great Lakes research and development if your proposal is awarded:
 - a. Financial resources (1 paragraph): Describe any cost-sharing or in-kind support your organization/institution will provide to CIGLR’s Regional Consortium of partners. Examples might include, but are not limited to, funds to help support CIGLR programs (postdoctoral or graduate fellowships, summits and working groups, etc.), donated research supplies or support (processing of samples, donating technician support, etc.).
 - b. Vessels and facilities (1 paragraph): Describe any research vessels, or specialized laboratory, manufacturing, computing, or other facilities that your organization/institution will share at cost with CIGLR’s Regional Consortium of partners.
 - c. Monitoring and Advanced Technologies (1 paragraph): Describe any buoys, gliders, drones, satellite imagery/processes that your institution/organization would be able to offer and help coordinate for monitoring activities throughout the Great lakes.
5. Outreach, engagement, and DEI activities (1 page). Describe any public outreach, policy or stakeholder engagement, or Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs your institution/organization would add to activities of the Regional Consortium.
6. Letter of support (1 page). Provide a letter of support from an authorized member of your institution/organization’s administration agreeing to sign the attached MOU, and to abide by conditions of CIGLR membership, if your proposal is successful.

Deadline and Review. Proposals for new CIGLR Partners should be submitted by email to CIGLR’s Program Manager, Mary Ogdahl (ogdahlm@umich.edu), by 5-pm EST on December 1st, 2018. Late proposals will be not be considered. Proposals will be reviewed and ranked by CIGLR’s Council of Fellows, which consists of representatives of current Partner organizations/institutions who collectively serve as the science advisory board for the institute. Decisions will be announced in February, 2019.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

The University of Michigan
School for Environment & Sustainability

and

Your institution

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines an agreement between the Regents of the University of Michigan on behalf of its School for Environment & Sustainability (“University of Michigan”) and **Your institution** to partner in new and ongoing activities related to the Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research, under the NOAA Award NA17OAR4320152 (7/1/2017-6/30/2022). In accordance with the proposal for this award, the University of Michigan is referred to as the “Host institution” for the Cooperative Institute, whereas **Your institution** will be referred to as one of several “Regional Consortium Partners” institutions who have agreed to join the Host in forming and implementing the Cooperative Institute. This MOU sets the terms of agreement for both the Host and Regional Consortium Partner institutions.

Background

Since 1989, the University of Michigan has served as the Host institution for NOAA’s Great Lakes Cooperative Institute, formerly called the Cooperative Institute of Limnology and Ecosystems Research (CILER). In 2017, the University of Michigan and the original 8 Regional Consortium partners won a 5-year competitive bid to form the new Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR). CIGLR is one of 16 NOAA-funded Cooperative Institutes across the United States that engage academic institutions, non-profit organizations, and the private sector in research that supports NOAA’s mission to lead applied scientific research involving the nation’s weather, oceans, and coastal resources.

The primary goal of CIGLR is to support research at NOAA’s Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab (GLERL) in Ann Arbor, where CIGLR is collocated. One way the Host institution supports research at GLERL is by fostering a Regional Consortium of Partners around the Great Lakes that will interact with NOAA researchers at GLERL to expand their research capacity, intellectual expertise, and geographic scope. While NOAA benefits from enhanced research capacity, Regional Consortium Partners benefit from programs offered by the Host Institution that are designed to enhance research overlap and interaction with NOAA PIs. In turn, these interactions create opportunities for academic and GLERL PIs to form teams that are more successful in responding to NOAA calls for funding. In exchange for these benefits, Regional Consortium Partners agree to select conditions that standardize and optimize use of NOAA’s research funding across the Great Lakes as a whole.

What the Host Institution provides

Neither the University of Michigan nor the Cooperative Institute can guarantee NOAA funding to any institution. Rather, the role of the Host Institution is to empower the Cooperative Institute to foster connections and interaction between NOAA researchers, Principal Investigators (“PIs”), and students from Regional Consortium Partners in ways that nurture connections and enhance

research capacity at NOAA GLERL. CIGLR fosters connections and enhances research capacity by offering the following programs to Regional Consortium Partners:

- Summits and Working Groups (SWGs). CIGLR funds and hosts up to three SWGs per year, providing up to \$20K each. Summits convene 20 to 30 experts from Great Lakes universities, NGOs, government agencies, and businesses for short (2-3 day) meetings that summarize the state of knowledge and recommend future research priorities on problems that span decadal time-scales. Working Groups convene smaller groups (8-12) for up to one week to make detailed progress on more narrow Great Lakes issues with solutions on the time scale of months to years. SWGs will be selected from review of proposals submitted by Regional Consortium Partners to an annual call.
- Rapid funds. CIGLR provides small grants of up to \$10K to PIs and/or students from Regional Consortium Partner institutions who need short-term funds to form an initial response to an emergency or time-sensitive need in the Great Lakes (e.g., Flint water crisis, Toledo water crisis, oil or chemical spills, etc.). Decisions on Rapid proposals can be made internally in 2 days, with awards providing the seed funding researchers need to be ‘first-responders’ even as they solicit more substantial funds from an appropriate agency or organization.
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activities, community outreach events, public education talks, establishment of social media sites or feeds, factsheets, newsletters, or magazines.

Once the aforementioned programs foster research interactions between PIs at Regional Consortium Partner institutions, CIGLR, and NOAA GLERL, the Cooperative Institute will further provide the financial and logistic support for meetings needed to put together research teams, as well as for the development and submission of proposals.

What Regional Consortium Partner Institutions/Organizations agree to

In exchange for the aforementioned programs and opportunities, Regional Consortium Partners agree to the following terms, which establish a uniform cost of NOAA doing research with institutions and organizations across the Great Lakes, and increase the geographic scope of NOAA GLERL's research capacity:

1. Reduced IDC on NOAA grants and subcontracts. As the Host institution, the University of Michigan will administer all NOAA grants in the Cooperative Institute at an off-campus IDC rate of 26%. In addition, the Host institution will waive IDC on all subcontracts awarded to Regional Consortium Partners through the Cooperative Institute Cooperative Agreement. Once University Partners receive awards from the Cooperative Institute, they agree to abide by the same reduced IDC rates of 26%.
2. Reduced IDC on Postdoctoral and Graduate Fellowships. As Host institution, the University of Michigan will fund up to two postdoctoral fellowships and two graduate fellowships at Regional Consortium Partner institutions. University Partners who are awarded Cooperative Institute fellowships agree to charge no more than 10% IDC rates on these funds.
3. Infrastructure and research vessels. NOAA's mission spans all of the Great Lakes, yet its research infrastructure and vessels do not. Therefore, one goal of the Cooperative Institute is to leverage the resources at partner institutions, and make those resources available to all partners who work in the Great Lakes. Therefore, Regional Consortium Partners agree to allow NOAA scientists, Cooperative Institute scientists, and scientists from other Regional Consortium Partner institutions/organizations to use their Great Lakes research vessels and laboratory facilities at their 'in-house' cost.
4. Advisory board. To ensure that the Cooperative Institute is not only meeting the needs of NOAA, but is serving the research community across the Great Lakes, Regional Consortium Partners will elect one member to serve on CIGLR's Council of Fellows, which meets 2x per year to oversee and advise the Cooperative Institute's leadership team (Director, Associate Director, and Program Manager).

Funding

This MOU is not a legally binding commitment of funding or the delivery of programs. Many of the incentives and programs provided by the Host Institution to Regional Consortium Partners are funded by the return of IDC from the Host Institution to the Cooperative Institute. As such, the incentives and programs are developed based on historical research grant volumes, and are contingent on the continued funding of the Cooperative Institute by NOAA at levels that equal or exceed the last Cooperative Agreement. Other incentives and programs administered by the Host Institution are directly funded by NOAA GLERL. At any time, funding cuts by NOAA to the

Cooperative Institute will necessitate proportional cuts to Cooperative Institute incentives and programs.

Duration

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of the Host Institution and the Regional Consortium Partner institution. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials at the end of this document, and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent. In the absence of mutual agreement by the authorized officials, this MOU shall end on July 1st, 2022 at the end of the current Cooperative Agreement. Continuation of the MOU for an additional 5 years will be subject to the success of a non-competitive renewal of the Cooperative Institute, as well as the level of interaction, compliance with terms, and mutual continued interest.

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