WRF Tailored Collaboration Program

The Water Research Foundation (WRF) Tailored Collaboration (TC) Program is a matching program designed to support utility-specific/regional issues. It provides an opportunity for subscribing utilities to partner with WRF on research projects that address issues of interest to a significant subgroup of WRF subscribers.

Projects funded under the Tailored Collaboration Program are chosen annually through a two-stage competitive process:

STAGE 1:

WRF issues an annual call for pre-proposals. Submitted ideas are evaluated and approved by the Tailored Collaboration Review Committee (TCRC).

STAGE 2:

Applicants whose pre-proposals were approved in Stage 1 are invited to submit full proposals to compete for funding. The full proposals are evaluated and approved by the TCRC.

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PROGRAM DETAILS

- WRF provides a 1:1 match, up to $150,000, for every $1 in cash that a subscriber or group of subscribers provides toward the project.

- Each project must be sponsored by a WRF subscribing utility; however, funds from all categories of WRF subscribers are eligible for the cash match.

- Cash match is required in order to submit a proposal to the program.

- There is no minimum in-kind contribution required.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Topic Breadth and Applicability

- Originality

- Technical Approach

- Budget

- Management Plan

- Qualifications of Key Personnel

PARTNERING ON CRITICAL RESEARCH

Through the Tailored Collaboration Program, WRF partners directly with utility subscribers on research and innovation. Under this program, a subscriber or group of subscribers can obtain up to $150,000 in matching funds for a research idea that they have developed. These ideas may be more specialized or regional in nature than those funded through WRF's other research programs, but still have the potential for broader applicability. **Each year, 20% of WRF's budget is allocated to the Tailored Collaboration Program.**

> **The TC Program is a great option because you can take your small budget, have it matched, and draw on the expertise of other utilities. It creates a collaborative environment and makes the project even more impactful."**
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> KRISTAN VANDENHEUVEL
> Director of Applied Research and Engagement,
> The Water Tower

2023 TAILORED COLLABORATION PROGRAM AWARDS

Project Title	Sponsoring Utility	WRF Funds	Total Budget
Determining the Role of Spectral Imaging as an Early Warning System for Presence/Significance of Algal Blooms	American Water	$150,000	$569,500
HTL Aqueous Stream Anaerobic Co-Digestion and Ammonia Recovery to Enhance the Technical and Economic Viability of HTL Technology for Biosolids Treatment	Great Lakes Water Authority	$150,000	$364,000
Lithium Treatment Strategies in Drinking Water	Southern Nevada Water Authority	$150,000	$359,997
Understanding the Factors Affecting PFAS Variability in the Potomac River Watershed	Loudoun Water	$150,000	$426,500
Pop-Up Hyporheic Zones (PUHZO): A Novel Modular Technology to Treat Phosphorus in Urban Drool and Dry-Weather Creeks	Sonoma County Water Agency	$45,000	$110,240
Balancing Carbon Management, Energy Production, Nutrient Removal and Densification	Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago	$150,000	$572,136
Evaluation of Adsorptive Medias for Optimizing Siloxane Removal from Biogas	Pima County	$66,000	$171,800
RT-ddPCR for EBPR Biomonitoring	Clean Water Services	$37,500	$609,018
Evaluating the Full-Scale Impacts of Densified Activated Sludge on Disinfection Efficacy; Connecting Water Quality and Disinfectant Dose-Response	Metro Water Recovery	$70,000	$563,265
Characterization and Pilot Testing of Microwave Reactivation for PFAS-laden Granular Activated Carbons	Hampton Road Sanitation District	$150,000	$745,999
PFAS Fingerprinting for Source Identification Using Machine Learning	South Platte Renew	$120,000	$290,360
Cal-Val Guide to Treatment Credits for Indirect Potable Reuse in California	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	$150,000	$300,000

Visit waterrf.org for more information about the Tailored Collaboration Program and to view the submission guidelines.