

## UVA Wise Environmental Resilience Pilot (ERP) Grants

Through the University of Virginia's Environmental Institute, UVA's College at Wise offers a seed funding program to support transformative environmental research projects. Program goals are to improve community resilience, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, encourage scientific communication, and to conduct groundbreaking work that strengthen our research capacity.

**FA2025 Deadline to Apply for 2026 Projects: November 21, 11:59pm EDT**

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Proposed ERP grant projects may be on any subject related to environmental science. Projects may be basic, translational, clinical, or take a combined approach to research.

Successful ERP proposals will have high potential to promote the health and wellbeing of residents of Central Appalachia and concrete plans for pursuing subsequent extramural funding. Priority will be given to proposals that include community partners and stakeholders.

Examples of possible topics include:

- o Climate adaptation and mitigation strategies
- o Sustainable land and water management
- o Renewable energy and efficiency
- o Risk assessment and hazard mapping/modeling
- o Infrastructure planning and stormwater management
- o Ecosystem resilience and restoration

Awards of up to **\$24,500** will be given for the duration of **one year** with the potential for a no-cost extension after one year. Proposals that include multidisciplinary project teams of two or more faculty members may be eligible for additional support or extended project periods. Cost sharing and in-kind match are encouraged.

We encourage collaborations across institutions and with community partners; however, only faculty from UVA Wise may serve as sponsored investigators. Faculty may only receive one ERP grant per cycle. Brief written feedback will be returned to all applicants.

Award recipients will be required to deliver an oral presentation about their research to the College within a year of the ERP award. Presentations may be given by lead faculty members and participating undergraduate students. The event should be publicized to ensure community awareness and encourage public attendance.

**Required Proposal Components:**

1. Project description (2 pages) should include the following:
  - i. Title of project
  - ii. Investigators
  - iii. Significance
  - iv. Innovation & potential scientific impact
  - v. Approach/Methodology
  - vi. Timeline and project outcomes
2. References Cited (not in above page limit)
3. Biographical Sketches for Key Personnel (not in page limit)
4. Budget (up to one page)
  - i. Personnel costs (including faculty course buy-outs), and
  - ii. OTPS (equipment, supplies, travel, other)
  - iii. ERP grant-related conference travel and attendance expenses should be included in the proposed budget, as awardees will be ineligible for Research and Professional Development funding from the Office of Academic Affairs during the grant year.
5. Other Support (if applicable, up to one page)
  - i. List of in-kind match, additional funding sources, and amounts
6. Impact Statement (up to one page)
  - i. Describe the impact that this award will have on the health and wellbeing of the residents of Central Appalachia.
  - ii. Plans for Extramural Support: Provide a list of planned future proposals including agency/foundation and submission dates.

*\*Additional information regarding the proposal may be requested following initial review.\**

**Criteria for Evaluation Include:**

- Mentorship – Project provides UVA Wise students opportunities for research.

- Relevance – Potential to promote the health and wellbeing of residents of Central Appalachia.
- Scientific merit – Significance, Innovation, Approach
- Potential - For future extramural funding and/or campus/community enhancement
- Budget – Projections are reasonable and necessary.

**Proposal Submission Format:**

1. Assemble entire application as a single PDF file titled:  
“Lastname\_Firstname\_20252026PilotGrant.pdf”
2. Send your application to Dr. Chrissy Hall [dyv4de@uvawise.edu].