APPLYING FOR AN INNOVATION GRANT

EARTHLAB OVERVIEW

EARTHLAB ENVISIONS AN EQUITABLE, JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD WHERE PEOPLE AND PLANET THRIVE.

As a Carnegie-classified Community Engagement University, the University of Washington (UW) aspires to be the top public university in the world as measured by impact. EarthLab is an institute at the UW that pushes boundaries to develop innovative, just and equitable solutions to environmental challenges, with a particular focus on climate and its intersection with social justice. We do this by connecting across sectors and academic disciplines to inspire and incentivize new partnerships that bridge the UW and the wider community.

INNOVATION GRANTS PROGRAM

The EarthLab Innovation Grants Program invests in teams of community partners and academic researchers and students at the University of Washington who are interested in developing solutions at the intersection of climate change and social justice. EarthLab is seeking proposals for research that will generate equitable and actionable science and knowledge (i.e., science that is usable and used).

The EarthLab Innovation Grants Program funds partnerships that co-define research priorities from multiple perspectives and initiate a new research project that addresses climate change. The project should generate new knowledge that can be used by the community and other stakeholders to mitigate or adapt to climate change and address intersecting social justice considerations. Projects may be local, regional, national or international.

QUICK FACTS

> Our next funding cycle will award up to $300,000
> Maximum budget request per project is $75,000
> Letters of Intent are due on 1/27/2022 at 5:00 pm PT
> Program goals: co-creation and partnership between community and UW researchers, interdisciplinary collaboration, action at the intersection of climate and social justice, and potential for growth of the project or partnership

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
Scan the QR code to view the full Request for Proposals and terms & conditions!
To be considered, all project teams must include:

1. **Community or Non-Academic Lead(s)**
   The community or non-academic lead(s) may include, for example: personnel associated with/from a Tribe, a community-led organization, a non-governmental organization, a city, state or federal agency or a business.

2. **University of Washington Lead(s)**
   Two or more UW faculty or staff researchers from different disciplines.
   At least one of the UW faculty or staff researchers must have Principal Investigator (PI) status with the UW. If the project team is awarded a grant, this person will be responsible for obtaining any relevant compliance approval, including IRB approval if the project includes activities with human subjects.

3. **University of Washington undergraduate student(s), graduate student(s) or postdoc(s)**
   Each team should include at least one undergraduate or graduate student or a postdoc who is meaningfully engaged in at least one project activity (e.g., the student or postdoc should have opportunities for both leadership and professional development, as well as to receive mentorship).

Individuals and organizations may not serve as a project lead on more than one project team. Applicants with existing resources to fund their project or who need funding to continue an existing funded project are discouraged from applying. Grantees that have received funding from the EarthLab Innovation Grants Program in the past are not eligible to apply for the current funding cycle.

The Innovation Grants Program does **NOT** fund the following:
- Academic course development
- Program evaluation
- Technology commercialization

**Project Deliverables:** Required within grant period; designed to have immediate impact for community or non-academic partners.

**Innovation Grant Cohort Meetings:** Each team must participate in 3 cohort meetings during the grant period.

---

**Words from Previous Innovation Grantees**

“Thank you for providing us the opportunity to do this research. EarthLab’s focus on applied/interdisciplinary/pilot research is unique and helps fill a large hole in the current funding environment. I truly hope that it becomes a model for other funding organizations.”

— Cory Morin, 2019 Innovation Grants

“Thanks to you all for your early support of this project through the Innovation Grants Program. The funding and mentorship you have provided allowed us to make crucial progress this summer and has deepened the collaboration between my lab and Karuk Tribe collaborators, which has resulted in a funding proposal through the Mellon Just Futures Initiative.”

— Cleo Woelfle-Erskine, 2020 Innovation Grants

“As a researcher working on complex environmental problems, I value the opportunities brought by EarthLab lectures and events to expand connections, create synergies and carry out research into the community.”

— Nancy Simcox, 2019 Innovation Grants

---

**Connect with Us**

For questions about the program or this RFP, please contact elgrants@uw.edu.

To learn more about EarthLab at the University of Washington, reach out via:
Website: earthlab.uw.edu
Phone: 206-543-5045