

Student Funding Opportunity

CMI Graduate Student Research Awards

Deadline: March 16, 2020



The University of Alaska Coastal Marine Institute (CMI) is a partnership of the University of Alaska, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), and the State of Alaska. The CMI provides a pathway for BOEM to fund research supporting the management, exploration, and development of energy resources on Alaska's outer continental shelf. In 2020, CMI will award up to two \$25,000 Graduate Student Research Awards to support qualified University of Alaska students in research work with relevance to the BOEM mission. Projects should address one or more of the CMI Framework Areas defined below.

Student Research Awards are intended to fund a specific, well-defined component or augmentation of a student's broader research effort or an established project. Maximum awards are \$25,000 (including indirect costs) and can be spent May 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. All award funds must directly benefit the student and may be used for graduate student support, tuition, university fees, and research expenses such as travel, supplies, and laboratory fees. Non-federal cost-share (1:1) is required and can include student advisor and committee member time and third-party contributions. Contact CMI with any questions.

Areas of Interest

Geographical Areas: The primary regions of interest include State and Federal waters offshore of Alaska, particularly areas impacted by offshore oil and gas exploration and development. However, research efforts outside of the Alaska Region could be funded if applicable to CMI priorities.

CMI Framework Areas: The most relevant studies will supply information to support the analysis of the potential effects of offshore development, including oil spill risk analysis and mitigation of potential impacts on the biological and human environment. Student research should address one or more of the following:

- Scientific studies for better understanding of marine, coastal, or human environments affected or potentially affected by offshore oil and gas exploration and extraction or renewable energy development on the OCS;
- Modeling studies of environmental, social, economic, or cultural processes related to OCS oil and gas or renewable energy activities to improve scientific predictive capabilities;
- Experimental studies for better understanding of environmental processes or the causes and effects of OCS activities;
- Projects that improve the collection of and sharing of data regarding marine or coastal resources or human activities to support prudent management of oil and gas resources; and
- Synthesis studies of scientific environmental or socio-economic information relevant to the OCS oil and gas and renewable energy program.

PROPOSAL CONTENT

Proposals must address all 15 elements below and should not exceed 6 pages total for items 1-11.

1. Abstract (300 words or less)

- Identify applicable CMI Framework Area and region where the study will take place,
- Define targeted objectives and questions or hypotheses being tested, and
- Identify methodology.

2. Introduction/Background/Relevance to CMI/BOEM: Give a brief introduction to the research problem and supporting background information. State how the proposed work addresses the CMI Framework Areas and explain its relevance to the management of Alaska's offshore oil and gas resources.
3. Objectives/Hypotheses: Clearly define specific goals to be addressed through this funding and ties to other research efforts, if applicable.
4. Methods/Analyses: Briefly summarize methodologies and analyses to be used.
5. Data Management/Archiving Plan: Explain your data management plan (i.e., providing data to BOEM in a format that meets Federal data standards, archiving with the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC), or other appropriate Federal Data Repository, etc.).
6. Safety Plans and Permits: Identify permits required to accomplish the objectives and how they will be attained. For studies involving fieldwork, provide a Logistics and Safety Management Plan.
7. Project Management: Indicate the role/effort for each participant in the project (student, advisor, etc.).
8. Performance Measures: List specific measures that will indicate project progress (e.g., completion of fieldwork, other project components, reporting, etc.).
9. **Required Project Deliverables:**
 - a) *Quarterly Reports*: October 15, January 15, April 15, July 15
 - b) *CMI Annual Research Review Seminar Presentation*: January 2021
 - c) *Draft Final Report & Technical Summary*: August 1, 2021
 - d) *Revised Final Report and Technical Summary*: September 15, 2021
 - e) *15-20 Project Images and Data Submission*: August 1, 2021
 - f) *Outreach summary* (one page) or *small poster* (8½" x 11") describing the project results in language appropriate for a non-science, lay audience: September 15, 2021
10. List any additional products (maps, digital data, etc.) anticipated from the project.
11. Project Timeline: Include performance measures and project deliverables (Items 8–10).
12. Bibliography
13. Curricula Vitae (maximum 2 pages).
14. Letter of Support Mentor: Letter: Provide a signed letter from the student's Advisor or Committee Member
 - a) ***stating that they will monitor project progress and review/approve the draft final report,***
 - b) confirming the student is enrolled/accepted and in good standing,
 - c) confirming the student is able to complete the research in the timeline given,
 - d) confirming that the source of non-federal cost-share and other contributing sources are accurate, and
 - e) identifying any other funding supporting the project and/or the student.
15. UAF Budget Spreadsheet and Justification: Detailed description of anticipated expenditures and sources of 1:1 non-federal cost-share (*include commitment letters as appropriate*).

SUBMISSION/QUESTIONS

The submission deadline is **5 pm, Monday, March 16, 2020**. Submit applications as a **single PDF file** to uaf-cmi@alaska.edu. Please direct questions to CMI Program Manager, Ruth Post (474-6782, rmpost@alaska.edu), or CMI Director, Brenda Konar (bhkonar@alaska.edu).