



**Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast (CCRUN)
Community Climate Resilience Grant Competition
Call for Proposals**

Deadlines:

Informational Webinar ([registration required](#)): May 24, 7pm EDT

Letter of Intent (LOI): [Submit here](#) by June 20 (5pm EDT)

Full Proposal Deadline: August 1 (5pm EDT)

Award Period: Oct 1, 2022 - Sept 30, 2023

The [Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast](#) (CCRUN) is pleased to announce its Community Climate Resilience (CCR) Grant Competition. The CCR competition will award four one-year grants of \$25,000 each to non-profit [501(c)(3)] organizations working with socially vulnerable groups on projects that prepare communities in the urban Northeast (Philadelphia to Boston corridor) for hazards related to weather and climate, such as flooding and heat waves. These grants are designed to support projects focused on improving preparedness, adaptation, and resilience, and may include activities such as planning, data collection, vulnerability mapping, grant proposal development, network-building, advancing nature-based solutions, and more. Proposed projects should aim to reduce risks of climate variability and change in vulnerable communities, identify strategies that improve preparedness and resilience, and enhance equity. The CCRUN research team will work collaboratively with each grantee organization to support implementation of their projects. CCRUN has developed a list of support services available to the grantee organization within the scope of the CCR competition (see: CCRUN Service Categories).

About CCRUN

CCRUN is one of eleven Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) teams supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) dedicated to helping the nation prepare for and adapt to climate variability and change. CCRUN is a partnership between Boston University (BU), Columbia University (CU), Drexel University, Hunter College of the City University of New York (CUNY), Rutgers University, and Stevens Institute of Technology (Stevens). CCRUN conducts stakeholder-driven research and outreach

that reduces climate-related vulnerability and advances opportunities for adaptation in the urban Northeast corridor from Philadelphia to Boston.

Competition Approach

The goal of the CCRUN CCR competition is to support community-based organizations, non-profit groups, and alliance and coalition organizations working with vulnerable populations on community-focused planning and action-oriented projects that improve weather and climate hazard preparedness and resilience. Communities within the CCRUN region are exposed to a range of climate-related risks and extremes including heat waves, inland and coastal flooding, extreme precipitation, and other weather events, often compounded by other sources of social and economic inequality. The competition is open to nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status working on, or interested in, addressing a variety of different climate risks, based on the needs of the local community and its constituents. We seek applications from a diverse set of organizations working across the CCRUN region in order to provide opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration across projects.

CCRUN Service Categories

The CCRUN research team has developed expertise in climate services and stakeholder engagement in the general categories listed below. Applicants will choose a service area and one specific service category within it to guide their collaboration with CCRUN. This selection will assist CCRUN to pair partner grantees with the appropriate researcher(s) on the CCRUN team to assist development of the grantee's project.

Service Area 1: Research Design and Grant Support

- *Category 1A: Adaptation-related research design support.*
 - Grantee will identify a research problem and/or outline project design. CCRUN researchers will support project design, provide guidance on data collection and analysis processes, and assist in development of community survey tools and/or network outreach and communication strategies as requested.
- *Category 1B: Applications for adaptation-related funding support.*
 - Grantee will identify target grant(s) or specify a project in need of funding support. CCRUN researchers will support grant application development and/or identification of appropriate funding streams. This includes but is not limited to applications for state or federal adaptation funding (including FEMA), incentive programs (including community rating system or CRS), or adaptation grants from foundations or other institutions.

Service Area 2: Climate Services, Data Identification, Research, and Training

- *Category 2A: Identification of publicly available climate adaptation and planning tools and datasets.*
 - Grantee will identify target data sources or tools or specify project data needs. CCRUN researchers will provide training related to relevant data

source or tool and/or identification of appropriate data source or tool. This includes but is not limited to climate adaptation data sources, tools, and models related to temperature, flood risk, health, and social vulnerability indices from the EPA, NOAA, NASA, CCRUN, and local or state government entities.

- Category 2B: *Support with creation of local-scale vulnerability maps.*
 - Grantee will identify climate adaptation or vulnerability research questions. CCRUN researchers will assist in identification of appropriate web-based platforms to create vulnerability maps or develop other local-level climate indices from existing public and CCRUN datasets. Data may include climate projections and models (including sea level rise, coastal or riverine flooding, temperature, etc.), health vulnerability, sociodemographic data, housing, racial segregation, or other.
- Category 2C: *Support the development of information and services related to health risks associated with climate hazards, exposure assessment, and risk assessment.*
 - Grantee will identify thematic questions related to climate vulnerability and health and work with CCRUN researchers to pursue a research project.
- Category 2D: *Support the development of nature-based solutions and planning in response to weather and climate risks.*
 - Grantee will identify local climate vulnerabilities and work with CCRUN researchers to pursue planning and/or implementation of nature-based solutions.

Service Area 3: Community Outreach and Education

- Category 3A: *Planning and facilitation of resiliency planning and local decision making workshops.*
 - Grantee will identify topics of interest and community audience, as well as provide community outreach. CCRUN will assist in developing workshop material to prompt community conversation about resiliency planning and support decisions about preparedness actions in the grantee's community.
- Category 3B: *Planning and facilitation of community climate information seminars.*
 - Grantee will identify community audience and topics of interest, as well as provide community outreach. CCRUN will assist in developing workshop materials around desired themes, including climate projections and models (including sea level rise, coastal or riverine flooding, temperature), health vulnerability, sociodemographic data, housing, racial segregation, etc.
- Category 3C: *Support with community-led climate action network building.*
 - Grantee will identify target community audience and outreach plans. CCRUN will assist in developing climate information to be distributed through the network via web-based materials, webinars, or other campaigns.

Funding Details & Eligibility

CCRUN will award four grants of up to \$25,000 each for one-year projects. The \$25,000 can cover direct and indirect costs, with indirect costs not to exceed a rate of 20%. Funds may be used to support salaries and fringe benefits of project team members, stipends for community participation, appropriate travel, and costs associated with hosting events and workshops, such as facilities, refreshments, and supplies. CCRUN's time commitment does not need to be budgeted.

Eligible applicants include (but are not limited to) community groups, non-governmental organizations, and other not-for-profit entities active in the CCRUN region (urban Northeast corridor from Philadelphia to Boston). Coalition and alliance teams and partnerships are encouraged to apply. Organizations must provide proof of 501(c)(3) status in the LOI.

The anticipated project start and end dates are October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023.

Priority Considerations

The CCRUN Small Grant Competition will give priority consideration to applications that include the following provisions. These provisions are strongly encouraged but not required:

- Serve communities experiencing climate risks compounded with other social, economic, and/or health vulnerabilities;
- Build community capacity in weather and climate risk preparedness and resilience activities or planning processes;
- Identify adaptation and resilience strategies that address broader social, economic, and health needs of these communities as well as resources that can fund investments in these adaptations, including projects that improve access to financial, informational, educational or other resources;
- Demonstrate a history of or commitment to building cross-sector (working across non-governmental, governmental, community-based, and/or academic institutions) partnerships.

Anticipated Deliverables

Grant recipients will:

- Assign a lead investigator to maintain regular communication with a partner CCRUN researcher and grant coordinator via email, phone, or video conferencing service;
- Submit short biannual progress reports to CCRUN on a standard form;
- Attend quarterly meetings with full CCRUN team and other grantee partners to share project updates; and
- Produce one blog post (500-1,000 words) summarizing their work to be published on the CCRUN website (cross-posting on other sites is encouraged), no more than two months following the grant period.

- Additional deliverables will be determined and developed collaboratively between grantee and CCRUN team after selection and before formal grant agreement and may include:
 - 5-10 page white paper of project activities, results, and impacts.
 - Policy recommendation document.
 - Summary or recording of workshops or other project-related events.
 - Series of 3-5 blogs, videos, or podcasts.

Proposal Process and Timeline

All interested applicants are required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI). All applicants are highly encouraged to [register for and attend an informational webinar session](#) before submitting the LOI. Should no one on the project team be available during the live webinar, a recording will be sent to the applicant for review.

Letter of Intent (LOI)

LOI to include:

- Organization name;
- Organization website;
- Confirmation of non-profit [501(c)(3)] status;
- Contact information;
- Project location;
- Brief discussion of problem or topic to be addressed (not to exceed 500 words);
- Desired deliverables; and,
- Intended CCRUN service subcategory (see: CCRUN Service Categories).

LOI's must be submitted [via this Google Form](#) by 5pm (EDT) on June 20. Should your project team have trouble accessing the Google Form, please email CCRUN CCR Coordinator Katherine Cann at katherine.cann@rutgers.edu.

Feedback on LOIs will be provided to applicants by July 11. Invitations to submit a full application will be sent following LOI review and approval.

Full Application

Full application to include:

- Project title;
- Organization name and lead project contact;
- Confirmed CCRUN service subcategory;
- Description of project (3 pages maximum);
 - Problem or topic to be addressed;

- Goals - explain in detail which weather or climate hazards the project is addressing and how the proposed project will advance preparedness and resilience to weather and/or climate;
- Workplan;
- Description of stakeholders to be engaged; and
- Anticipated data and information needs;
- Composition of the project team, including short bios and relevant experience engaging stakeholders and working on projects related to resilience to weather and climate; and
- Budget.

Full applications must be submitted by 5pm (EDT) on August 1.

Final funding decisions are expected in late August, 2022.

Awards are anticipated to begin October 1, 2022 and run until September 30, 2023

Contact Information

Please direct all questions to CCRUN CCR Grant Coordinator Katherine Cann (katherine.cann@rutgers.edu).