



BU URBAN CLIMATE INITIATIVE

Announcement of 2019 Seed Grants

The Boston University (BU) Urban Climate Initiative (UCI) is pleased to announce its first request for proposals for small-scale, early stage research projects to generate new knowledge on the impacts, adaptation and/or mitigation of urban climate variability and/or change.

All BU faculty and pre- and post-doctoral students with faculty mentorship are eligible to apply for funding. Successful proposals can receive seed funding of up to \$20,000 for one year, starting June 2019. Proposals will be reviewed by members of the UCI Faculty Advisory Board. Up to three projects will be funded. The application deadline is April 22, 2019, and successful applicants will be notified the week of May 13.

Cities are central to both the impacts of and solutions to climate change. As home to a growing proportion of the world's population, including the urban poor, cities are increasingly bearing the impacts of climate extremes, including flood and heat events and unhealthy levels of air pollution. Urban areas now produce most global carbon emissions, but generate fewer emissions per capita than do less dense areas. Cities are engines of economic growth and policy innovation, and are taking a leadership role in climate change planning, both from the perspective of building resilience to climate risks as well as in developing innovative policies to achieve deep carbon emission reductions. What happens in cities over the next few decades will determine how severely our future world is shaped by climate change.

Priority will be given to projects with investigators drawn from at least two disciplines and/or schools, and for research areas that would be new for BU. We also encourage, but don't require, applicants to engage with BU and/or Boston as living laboratories, since both are deeply engaged in climate planning that will lead to transformative change over coming decades. Successful seed grant proposals will examine one or more questions related to impacts, adaptation, and/or mitigation of urban climate variability and/or change. A major goal of the seed grant program is to assist in the generation of preliminary data leading to the development of larger scale, multidisciplinary research proposals. Adjunct faculty are not eligible for this program.

Process:

Proposals are due by 5:00 PM on Monday April 22, 2019. Send an email with the proposal attached as either a PDF or word file to Laura Schifman (schifman@bu.edu) with "UCI Seed Grant Proposal" in the subject line.

Proposals should be a maximum of three pages, and include the following sections:

- Principle and Co-Investigators, with affiliated schools and departments.
- Project Title
- Rationale/motivation; why is this work important?
- Research objectives, stated briefly.
- Project description and proposed methods. Provide sufficient detail for reviewers to understand what you plan to actually do.
- Timeline; anticipated outputs.
- Budget and justification. Note that funds cannot be used to support faculty salaries.

In additional pages (beyond the 3-page limit), attach up to 2-page CVs for all key personnel. For student applicants, also include a letter of support from the faculty sponsor.