

Center for 
GeoHazards Studies

University at Buffalo
The State University of New York
College of Arts and Sciences

Proposal Guidelines

2020 Natural Hazards Student Research Grant

Important dates

All applications materials must be received by **1 March, 2021**. Funds are available for projects to start on **July 1, 2021**. Projects must be completed by **April 30, 2022**. The funds for individual research awards will be administered by the Center for Geohazards Studies. *Awards are contingent upon continued funding of the Center for Geohazards Studies.*

Description and request for proposals

UB's Center for Geohazards Studies requests proposals from graduate students for research in the general topic of natural hazards. Any UB graduate student who is conducting research related to natural hazards (including climate change-induced hazards) is eligible to submit a proposal. Examples might include: social and medical responses, communication about natural hazards; anthropological studies of the effects of disasters on past populations; engineering designs of infrastructure that is resilient to natural hazards; geological and geographic aspects; and development of numerical models of natural hazards.

The grants are intended to support direct research costs (for example, laboratory fees, fieldwork expenses); proposals to fund travel for conferences and workshops will not be considered. Award amounts are typically in the range of \$500-2000, and must be used within one year.

The proposal format is provided below. Selection of awardees will be made by a panel of natural hazards experts associated with the Center for Geohazards Studies. Proposal review metrics include:

- Originality of proposed research and applicability to understanding and reducing the impacts of natural hazards on human populations.
- Clarity of the research plan and its feasibility within the proposed budget and time frame.
- Potential for the student to develop a career related to natural hazards mitigation, based upon the personal statement and reference letters.

Eligible individuals must be enrolled in a graduate degree program at the University at Buffalo and be a member of the Center for Geohazards Studies (register at no cost at <http://geohazards.buffalo.edu/form/>).

Any presentation or publication supported through this award should include an acknowledgement of the center funding including logo where appropriate.

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Application Materials

All materials must be submitted electronically to bac6@buffalo.edu. All files should be submitted in PDF format in a single file. The file name should use this format: lastname_firstinitial. Reference letters sent on your behalf should include your last name and the sender's last name in some part of the file name. Proposals should be in 12-point font (preferably Times New Roman or similar), single space, with one-inch margins all around.

1. Cover letter (1 page): Applicants should provide a compelling narrative of her/his interest in natural hazards, evidence of leadership and innovation, and how the award could facilitate a unique and interdisciplinary plan for professional development. Applicants should not use cover letters to restate or extend material presented in the proposal, and vita. Thoughtful, well-crafted cover letters improve the likelihood that competitive proposals will be identified during the initial stages of proposal evaluation.
2. Title Page: Include applicant's name, contact information, project title, and total budget requested.
3. Research Plan (up to 4 pages): The research plan should include the following, with a maximum length of four pages:
 - introduction and hypothesis or question
 - background section,
 - approaches and methods,
 - anticipated results,
 - research schedule,
 - relevance to natural hazards (science, engineering, human, or other aspects).
4. Literature cited.
5. Budget and Budget Narrative page (see attached).
6. Applicant's Curriculum Vitae: NSF style CV, two pages maximum (template attached)
7. Letters:

One letter of recommendation addressing the merits of the candidate and the candidate's proposal. Letters should be written by individuals familiar with the applicant's skills, experience,

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and research. Letters should emphasize the qualifications of the applicant, in particular any unique abilities to contribute significantly to natural hazards science. The letter writer must submit an electronic copy of their letter directly to bac6@buffalo.edu. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that reference letters are submitted by the deadline.

Deadlines and Contact Information

All application materials, including letters from sponsors and references, must be received by the Center for Geohazards Studies to bac6@buffalo.edu by **5 pm EST on Friday, March 1, 2021**. The selection process begins immediately after this date. There are no extensions to this deadline and incomplete applications may be disqualified. Questions about the application process may be directed to the Center at bac6@buffalo.edu.

Final Reporting Requirements:

Students are required to submit a final written report at the end of their project, no later than May 1st, 2022.

Your report must include the following information:

- Name of student
- Student's home department
- Year of award
- Award amount
- List any special awards or recognition that accompanied your award
- A project abstract (as prepared for a journal article or poster)
- A final itemized budget, detailing how funds were spent.

Final reports should be submitted to the Center for Geohazards Studies at 126 Cooke Hall or emailed as PDF files to bac6@buffalo.edu.

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TITLE PAGE

The Center for Geohazards Studies research award provides partial research funding support to student members of the Center (<http://geohazards.buffalo.edu/form/>) and enrolled in a graduate program at the University at Buffalo. Awards will be made based on the availability of funds in any given semester. Complete the application and W-9 tax forms below and submit the original to the Center for Geohazards Studies, 126 Cooke Hall. **The deadline for submission is 5:00 PM, March 1, 2021.**

Applicant: _____ Degree program __ MS/MA __ PhD

Home Department: _____ Advisor Name: _____

Home Address:

Telephone Number: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Project Title: _____

Project Start Date: _____ (**All projects must end by April 30, 2021.**)

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BUDGET and BUDGET NARRATIVE PAGE:

Anticipated expenses:		Support from Other Sources:		
		Requested	Committed	Received
Travel	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Lodging	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Meals	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Supplies	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Transportation	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Equipment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Analysis	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Software	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Description and justification of expenses requested:
