



Call for Joint EDF-Cornell Proposals

Letters of Intent due: Nov 2, 2018

Full proposals due: Dec 7, 2018

SUMMARY

We seek competitive proposals for research (~\$50-100K, Cornell budget) or workshops (up to \$15K, total budget) that catalyze joint Cornell-EDF research efforts relevant to informing policy, and have achievable one-year goals that are on a path to impact. Only applications involving true collaborations between staff at both Cornell and EDF are eligible. Review will be performed promptly by combined Atkinson Center and EDF personnel. Funds will be available on March 4, 2019; all activities must commence by May 6, 2019. Submitted budgets should detail the activities of both Cornell and EDF team members, who can seek funding from the office of EDF's Chief Scientist. Details are below.

BACKGROUND

We are now in the fourth year of the collaboration between Cornell's Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future (Atkinson Center) and Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). The goal of the partnership is to accelerate problem-solving research relevant to national and international environmental policy discussions. Work can be basic or applied, but should always have a clear pathway to impact and an emphasis on actionable results.

This new partnership seeks to initiate joint research activities between Cornell and EDF researchers focusing on environmental challenges including, for example:

- Feeding growing world populations while producing fewer environmental impacts
- Making effective use of environmental sensing
- Safer chemicals and products, such as personal care products
- Determining the impacts of climate change and harvesting practices on ocean biodiversity
- Reducing methane emissions from animal agriculture and at various points in energy production, distribution and use
- Measuring and reducing air and water pollution
- Finding the best ways to induce behavioral changes that make sustainable practices a central component in people's lives
- Carbon accounting and energy transitions
- "Big data" and data system design

DEADLINES

To expedite reviewing, we encourage (but do not require) providing a letter of intent to file a proposal using [this online LOI form](#) **before Friday, November 2nd, 2018**. Full proposals are due **Friday, December 7th, 2018**.

PROPOSAL TWO-PAGE NARRATIVE–REQUIRED

(Save narrative as “2018-EDF-CU-YourLastName.PDF”)

The Co-Principal Investigators representing Cornell and EDF should submit a **very brief, two-page proposal narrative as a PDF**.

The following aspects should be addressed:

- What is the central challenge and the work to be accomplished? Why is this an important issue in sustainability and a healthy environment?
- What is the intended contribution of the proposed research to understanding, managing, and solving specific environmental issues?
- Provide a list of specific project milestones with a timeline against which to evaluate progress.
- What deliverables will be produced? Is a clear pathway to impact defined?
- How is this research collaborative and what are each partner’s roles? Proposals showing synergy between the partners and outcomes that wouldn't be possible individually will be favored.
- Is the research durable, i.e., can the research continue or policy be implemented after funding has expired?

REFERENCES - OPTIONAL

Optionally, a single page of references may be added after the two-page narrative. Any other items provided may be viewed or omitted at the discretion of the evaluation panel.

PROPOSAL BUDGET and JUSTIFICATION–REQUIRED

(Save budget as “2018-EDF-CU-YourLastName.XLSX”)

- Proposers may request funding up to \$100K (direct costs at Cornell) for one year. Additional funds needed to support activities by EDF staff should be described, and will need to be obtained from the office of EDF’s Chief Scientist. We are expecting most research proposals to request from \$50–80K (Cornell budget), and most workshops from \$5K–10K (total budget).
- The Excel budget template is [available for download](#). Fill in the template and provide justification where the purpose of the expenditure is not clear. Return the completed spreadsheet with justification with your proposal as a separate Excel file.
- Funds may be used to cover: Personnel (excluding faculty salary), Travel, Supplies, and Equipment.¹
- For Cornell researchers: Atkinson Center will transfer allocated funds to an account in the Cornell proposer’s department. These funds have no indirect cost recovery associated with them.

PROPOSAL FORMAT and SUBMISSION

Upload a single pdf file containing the two-page narrative, and optional references along with separate budget spreadsheet on [this online Proposal form](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Proposals will be evaluated by Atkinson Center and EDF leadership in early January, 2019. Selections will be finalized by February 1, 2019.
- Given the timeframe for the funding, we envision Cornell applicants will most likely want to use funds to support postdocs or senior graduate students rather than identify and hire new personnel.
- SCHEDULE NOTE: Funds will be available on March 4, 2019; all activities must commence by May 6, 2019. **Project duration may not exceed 12 months.**

QUESTIONS

Cornell: Contact Dave Dieterich dd355@cornell.edu

EDF: Contact Doria Gordon dgordon@edf.org

¹ Typically, Cornell funds support activities at Cornell; EDF funding supports activities at EDF.