



## Daugherty Water for Food Graduate Research Support Awards Request for Applications – Round Eleven (FY 2024-2025)

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*All applications must be electronically uploaded as a single PDF document to this [website](#).*

**Application deadline:** January 26, 2024                      **Start date:** July 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025  
**Award notification:** March 8, 2024

**Scope: Multiple awards up to \$17,500 each will be awarded to support graduate students**, either Master’s or Ph.D., for FY 2024-2025, with the requirement that these funds are to be matched one to one by funds secured by the faculty applicant to cover the costs of maintaining a graduate student for a year or more. Faculty will be eligible for the continuation of the award in subsequent years (a potential additional year for Master’s students or potential two additional years for Ph.D. students<sup>1</sup>), based upon an annual review of the student’s research project and progress towards completion. Awardees may apply for travel grants to present related research papers at national and international meetings, providing the student who is presenting, and the abstract have both been accepted (up to \$1000 awarded per student annually).

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### **I. BACKGROUND**

The Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI) works toward a water and food secure world. Our mission is to have a lasting and significant impact on achieving more food security with less pressure on scarce water resources by conducting scientific and policy research, using the research results to inform policy makers, and sharing knowledge through education and communication.

DWFI’s efforts target five primary focus areas:

- Improving groundwater management for agricultural production
- Enhancing high-productivity irrigated agriculture
- Supporting freshwater and agricultural ecosystems and public health
- Managing agricultural drought
- Closing water and agricultural productivity gaps

Our program includes education, capacity building and engagement to facilitate and advance our work. The institute will support Hubbard Water, Climate and Health Fellowships for students researching topics at the nexus of water, climate, and health. This initiative supports the institute’s focus on supporting freshwater and agricultural ecosystems and public health.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: A Master’s student who wants to become a Ph.D. student can receive a third year of funding under the same project. This change may be requested in the annual report. However, no student can be funded for more than 3 years (\$52,500). Students cannot be funded on two consecutive projects.

## II. ELIGIBILITY

DWFI Faculty Fellows who are not currently receiving graduate student or postdoctoral scholar support from the institute are eligible to submit applications for master's and Ph.D. student support in response to this call. Successful applications will support student research in areas of importance to the institute, as described in the institute's [mission](#) and [strategic plan](#).

University of Nebraska faculty who are not currently receiving graduate student or postdoctoral scholar support from DWFI are eligible to apply for a *Hubbard Water, Climate and Health Fellowship*. For more information about this funding opportunity, please review the [Hubbard Water, Climate and Health Fellowship Request for Applications](#).

## III. REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel of experts including global and distinguished Fellows, emeritus Faculty Fellows, donors, university administrators, and others (as needed) with expertise in the institute's focus areas along with a clear understanding of the institute's mission. The panel will prioritize applications for funding based upon their potential to result in contributions to, and measurable outcomes consistent with, the institute's [mission](#) and [strategic plan](#). Final selections will be reviewed by the DWFI Executive Director.

## IV. EXPECTATIONS

Successfully funded applications will require faculty advisors and students to meet several expectations, including the following:

- Recipients are expected to participate in an annual spring research forum.
- Recipients are expected to demonstrate impact by:
  - Sharing their research at professional conferences and venues.
  - Sharing their research in refereed journals and publications and acknowledging DWFI funding. (Resources available at: [Student Support Resources \(nebraska.edu\)](#))
- **An annual report is due by May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.** This report should include:
  - a summary of all relevant research activities, partners, participants, and outcomes, along with any variances or deviations from the project proposal.
  - results of the project from inception to date.
  - an assessment of the project's success to date, including:
    - a description of how close the student is to completing their degree program.
    - a budget report. If you expect to have any budget remaining from the current year of support, please describe how you will spend the remaining budget towards the completion of the student degree and the project objectives during the following year, if applicable.

*As part of this annual report, you may include a request for an additional year of student support.*

## V. FUNDING LIMITATIONS

Funds **may** be used for wages and salaries of graduate students and travel that is directly related to the project. Funds **may not** be used for any of the following purposes:

- Purchasing equipment.
- To replace current funding.
- Items for purposes not exclusive to the project, such as desktops or laptop computers, printers, software and related accessories and general office supplies.

## VI. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATION FORMAT:

Go to this [website](#):

- Enter title page information using the online form
- Upload proposal information as a single PDF document

### Title Page Information: (entered online, required for submission)

- Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute Faculty Fellow Advisor – Name and Contact Information and 2-page NSF style CV
- Project Title
- Student Name and CV or resume (if student has been identified)
- Total Request Amount (\$)
- Matching Fund Amount (\$) - given the requested award amount, show the source of the matching funds and their availability. A one-to-one match of institute funds is required. Questions about allowable match sources can be directed to Christopher Neale ([cneale@nebraska.edu](mailto:cneale@nebraska.edu)).

**Application Information:** The application is *limited to three single-spaced pages*, using Times New Roman (or similar) 11-point font and one-inch borders in a PDF format. References are not included in the page limit. Please upload your application as a single PDF document.

1. **Project Title**
2. **Project Description:** Describe the research and clearly state its relevance to the institute's mission, focus areas and outcome targets. The project description should include goals and objectives, a timeline, and deliverables.
3. **Anticipated Impacts:** Describe how impacts from this project tie in directly to the institute's target outcomes. Projects that clearly address how this research intentionally works towards changes in behavior and condition, rather than just knowledge, will be rated higher.
4. **Project Status:** Specify if the research project is on-going or new. If the project is on-going, list recent publications, presentations, etc.
5. **Student Status:** Specify whether the student is current or new. If the student is current, describe the student's graduate work to date and *submit the student's resume*. If new, describe the process by which the student will be recruited and/or gain admission to the University of Nebraska.
6. **Project Budget: The award amount ceiling has been set at \$17,500 per year.** In addition to providing a detailed budget narrative, please specify the source and amount of all matching funds. A one-to-one match of institute funds is required. To date matching funds have generally included grant funds and departmental funds (i.e., graduate/teaching assistant funds), but may also include other student awards and stipends.  
Travel support for the student to present their research at one conference is an acceptable expense. Up to \$1,000 in supplemental funding for one conference (national or international) per year will be available if the student's abstract is accepted and the student is the presenter. These funds are requested later in the year when the abstract is accepted and are not subject to the match requirement.
7. **Anticipated Start Date:** specify Fall 2024 or Spring 2025

If you have questions about the application process, please contact:

Rachael Herpel ([rherpel@nebraska.edu](mailto:rherpel@nebraska.edu), 402-419-0840), Randall Ritzema ([rritzema@nebraska.edu](mailto:rritzema@nebraska.edu)) or Christopher Neale ([cneale@nebraska.edu](mailto:cneale@nebraska.edu)).