Mni Sota Center for Weather and Health (MCWH) Pilot Project RFP

Frequently Asked Questions

MniSota.umn.edu/pilot-projects

What type of proposals are being sought?

Research proposals to start new efforts and build partnerships that help us understand the ongoing and new health issues linked to weather and weather-related factors in the Upper Midwest.

Are there particular themes or area of study that are being prioritized?

Yes, the MCWH is interested in proposals that will:

- Lay the groundwork for innovative, high-impact research to address both new and ongoing health challenges stemming from weather.
- Help form multidisciplinary partnerships across different fields and sectors to build our research capability in weather and health, making use of new data and community resources.
- Involve regional community partners in this research, specifically prioritizing participation from American Indian and rural communities.
- Be ready to quickly address emerging or re-emerging issues related to how weather patterns affect health.
- Develop cutting-edge pilot projects that have a strong likelihood of securing substantial additional funding.

Who can apply?

Open to any emerging or experienced investigators.

How much funding is available?

Pilot grants range from $5,000 to $30,000 maximum in total costs.

How long of a timeline should projects cover?

The expectation is that projects will be completed in 12 months.

How do I apply?

To begin the pre-proposal process, submit a one-page summary of your project to mnisota@umn.edu. See full RFP for the specifics that need to be included.

When is the pre-proposal application deadline?

Pre-proposal summaries must be submitted electronically by October 29, 2025 to be considered.

What happens after I submit my pre-proposal?

Your proposal will be reviewed by MCWH leadership. If your proposal is accepted, you will be invited to submit a full application. Invitees will be notified by email.

When will invitations for full proposals be sent out?

If accepted, you should anticipate being invited by email on November 7, 2025.

Will I be notified if my pre-proposal is not selected for full proposal submission?

Yes, you will be notified either way.

How many full proposals will be funded?

We expect that three to six projects will receive funding; however, this depends on the applicant pool and type of applications received.

Who should I contact for other questions?

Please reach out to the Center by email at mnisota@umn.edu.