

PhD Opportunities: GeoAI, Scalable Analytics, and Coastal Informatics

The newly established **GATOR Lab** (Geospatial Analytics, Technology, and Open Research) at the University of Florida is seeking two fully funded PhD students for Fall 2026. We position ourselves at the intersection of modern computing and geospatial science. As a freshly founded and fast-growing lab, we offer the unique opportunity to hit the ground running and make an immediate interdisciplinary impact ranging from environmental resilience to urban analytics.

Available Positions

- GeoAI & Scalable Analytics:** Focus on developing next-generation GeoAI frameworks and cloud-native workflows. Research topics may include Large Language Models (LLMs) for geospatial reasoning, mitigating bias in automated systems and geocomputation frameworks.
- Climate Resilience & Coastal Informatics:** Join the ongoing "*Future Shorelines*" project to advance spatiotemporal modeling of sea-level rise and develop open-source environmental decision support systems.

We may also consider original research proposals from well qualified candidates.

You will have access to:

- In-Lab AI Workstation:** A dedicated high-performance GPU machine for rapid local development and prototyping.
- HiPerGator:** Direct access to the most powerful AI supercomputer in U.S. academia.

The GATOR Mindset

Above all, we value intellectual curiosity and a critical mindset. We are looking for researchers who don't just apply tools, but interrogate them. You will thrive here if you are passionate about open science and eager to solve complex spatial problems through a data-science lens.

How to Apply

Applications are reviewed on an **ongoing basis**. Please email **Dr. Levente Juhász** at join@gatorlab.io with:

- CV and a link to your **portfolio or GitHub**.
- **A Brief Statement of Interest:** Clearly explain **WHY** you want to join the GATOR Lab and **HOW** your interests align with our research pillars. This is very important. We are not just looking for researchers, we are looking for the right fit. Be creative, authentic, and tell us why you want to join the GATOR Lab.
- An MS degree in GIScience, geography, computer/data science or a related field is required.

The University of Florida is ranked top 10 in the US among public universities across various metrics. The positions will be based at the [Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center](#) in the Miami metropolitan area. Students may be based in Gainesville during their first year. The positions include an annual stipend, tuition waiver and health insurance. Final admission depends on satisfying all [UF Graduate Admission](#) requirements.

Join us at the University of Florida to build the future of Geospatial Data Science.