**ArcGIS:**

* ArcGIS Pro is free through LSU. To download, open the sign-in link below, and input “lsu-its” for “Your ArcGIS organization's URL”. Then sign in with your myLSU ID.

[Esri Login](https://www.arcgis.com/sharing/rest/oauth2/authorize?client_id=esriapps&response_type=token&showSignupOption=true&signuptype=publicaccount&locale=en&expiration=480&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.esri.com%2Fen-us%2Fsignin%3Fredirect_success%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fpro.arcgis.com%252Fen%252Fpro-app%252Flatest%252Fget-started%252Fdownload-arcgis-pro.htm)

* Once signed in, proceed to the LSU page for ArcGIS Enterprise, located [here](https://lsu-its.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html). Click on your profile in the top-right corner of the screen and navigate to “My Settings”. On the left is a menu with three options. Select “My licenses” and scroll down until you find ArcGIS Pro, which should have a download link next to it.
* Follow the instructions provided in the installer.

**QGIS (optional):**

* If you are unable to access ArcGIS Pro for whatever reason, QGIS is a viable alternative. Some commands will vary between softwares, but the overall process remains largely the same.
* QGIS is a free software, available for download from [QGIS.org](https://qgis.org/download/). It requires no sign-in, but will ask for a donation. Regardless of the amount chosen, the download will begin after proceeding to the next screen and selecting the “Online (OSGeo4W) installer” option.
* Follow the instructions in the installer.

**Matlab:**

* Matlab is free with an institutional login. Proceed to <https://www.mathworks.com/downloads/> and create an account or sign in. Download release R2024a and follow the instructions in the installer. R2025a is acceptable if you already downloaded it, but the toolkit was not made in that version and some features may not work the same.

**Python:**

* This toolkit’s scripts run in Python 3.12.9, which is an older version. If you don’t plan to use Python outside of this toolkit, go to <https://www.python.org/downloads/> and scroll down to select Python 3.12.9. Follow the instructions in the installer. In this case, your base version of Python will be an old release.
* If you already have a Python installation on your computer or plan to use it for another purpose in the future, you will need to create a virtual environment with the correct version. Open command prompt and type the following:

conda create -n CEDS python=3.12.9

* Type “y” and hit enter when prompted. When using the Python scripts provided in this toolkit, you will need to move them to the appropriate environment folder, which you can find using:

conda env list

* If you wish to view or edit the provided scripts, you may type the following to install Spyder to make adjustments, or you can use the default notepad.

conda install spyder-kernels=2.5

* You will need to install several libraries for the scripts to work properly. If the setup.py script doesn’t work, run the following in the command prompt while the virtual environment is active:

conda install pandas matplotlib numpy scipy configparser subprocess