

# IWRC SEED FUND FACT SHEET

## ABOUT THE IWRC SEED FUND PROGRAM

The Illinois Water Resources Research Center (IWRC) Seed Fund Program provides competitive grants to support innovative water resources research at Illinois institutions. This one-time seed funding has enabled researchers to develop preliminary data that supports larger federal grant proposals.

### KEY FINDINGS (2015-2024)

#### Total Investment

\$2,711,544 invested in 77 unique projects

#### Student Training

117 students trained across all degree levels

- 39 PhD students
- 24 Master's students
- 52 Undergraduate students
- 2 Post-Doctoral researchers

#### Institutional Reach

12 Illinois institutions served by the program

#### Research Distribution

Programs span diverse water resources research topics including water quality, water treatment, groundwater, flooding, and environmental remediation.

### FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON (2020-2024)

#### Recent Focus (2020-2024)

\$2,026,150 invested in 47 projects

58 students trained

#### Investment Per Project

10-Year Average: \$35,215 per project

5-Year Average: \$43,110 per project

### PROGRAM IMPACT

- Provides preliminary data for larger federal grant proposals
  - Supports graduate and undergraduate education
- Addresses critical water resources challenges in Illinois
  - Promotes collaboration across multiple institutions
  - Builds research capacity in underrepresented areas

Data corrected November 24, 2025 - Represents unique projects in the program