

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## IWRC Seed Fund Program 2015-2024

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Illinois Water Resources Research Center (IWRC) administers a competitive seed funding program designed to support innovative water resources research projects at Illinois institutions. Over a ten-year period (2015-2024), the program has made significant investments in research and education.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

#### Financial Performance:

Total Program Investment:	\$8,516,278
Average Cost per Project:	\$110,601
Average Cost per Student Trained:	\$28,014
Research Scope:	

Number of Projects Funded:	77
Number of Institutions Served:	16
Education Impact:	

Total Students Trained:	304
Degree Level Distribution:	

- PhD Students:	118
- Master's Students:	52
- Undergraduate Students:	127
- Post-Doctoral Researchers:	7

### RECENT PERFORMANCE (2020-2024)

The five-year period from 2020-2024 demonstrates continued program activity:

Investment Level:	\$7,319,144
Projects Funded:	47
Students Trained:	186

### CONCLUSIONS

- Provides seed funding for innovative research projects
- Supports graduate and undergraduate student training
- Reaches all regions of Illinois through diverse institutions
- Enables development of preliminary data for larger federal grants
- Advances understanding of critical water resources issues