

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: \$2,711,544

Average Cost per Project: \$35,215

Average Cost per Student Trained: \$23,176

Research Scope:

Number of Projects Funded: 77

Number of Institutions Served: 12

Education Impact:

Total Students Trained: 117

Degree Level Distribution:

- PhD Students: 39

- Master's Students: 24

- Undergraduate Students: 52

- Post-Doctoral Researchers: 2

RECENT PERFORMANCE (2020-2024)

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

Investment Level: \$2,026,150

Projects Funded: 47

Students Trained: 58

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