

North Atlantic Coast (NAC) Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) Master Agreement

The [website](#) for NAC CESU may from time to time include funding opportunities under this agreement. Under the terms of the NAC CESU Agreement, any partner to the agreement may issue individual financial assistance awards in accordance with each federal agency's or institution's procedures.

Requesting the NAC CESU Indirect Cost Rate:

Proposals under the NAC CESU are subject to a maximum indirect cost rate of 17.5%. There are two exceptions to this rate.

- (1) For proposals issued by NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service), the indirect cost rate is 10% of total direct costs for colleges, universities, and other nonprofit organizations.
- (2) Host University (The University of Rhode Island) will not charge indirect costs for funds transferred directly from a participating Federal Agency to a Partner Institution via a modification to the NAC CESU.

For the NAC CESU Agreement indirect cost rate to apply to a proposal the following must be provided for OSP review:

- Sponsor Confirmation (the Applicable Sponsors are identified below):
 - Request for Proposal/Solicitation that includes guidance for a NAC CESU partner submission process or otherwise indicates the NAC CESU Agreement is applicable to the proposal;
 - Sponsor email affirming the applicability of the NAC CESU Agreement to the proposal; or
 - Other formal written confirmation from the Sponsor the award will be issued under the NAC CESU Agreement.
- Brief Explanation (consistent with Article II, Section D.4) to include:
 - the proposed work;
 - the project contribution to the objectives of CESU;
 - the methodology of the project;
 - the substantial involvement of each party;
 - the project budget and schedule; and
 - the specific project outputs or products.

In the event of no Sponsor Confirmation, the [applicable](#) indirect cost rates under the DHHS negotiated rate agreement apply to the proposal. If the Sponsor is a partner to the NAC CESU and no Sponsor Confirmation is provided, all standard OSP [policies](#) apply to the proposal.

Applicable Sponsors:

Federal Agencies

- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Civil Works
- Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Sovereign Nation

- Narragansett Indian Tribe

Host University and Partner Institutions

- University of Rhode Island (Host University)
- Bates College
- Boston University
- Bridgewater State University
- Brown University
- Bryn Mawr College
- The City University of New York
- College of the Atlantic
- Columbia University in the City of New York
- Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania
- Cornell University
- Dickinson College
- Harvard University
- Marine Biological Laboratory
- Montclair State University
- Northeastern University
- Rutgers, The State University
- The Research Foundation for The SUNY for SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- The Research Foundation for The SUNY for SUNY Stony Brook
- The Trustees of the Stevens Institute of Technology

- Stockton University
- University of Connecticut
- The University of Maine
- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of Massachusetts Boston
- University of New England
- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- Yale University
- American Turtle Observatory
- Biodiversity Research Institute
- Center for Coastal Studies
- Maryland Coastal Bays Program
- Native Plant Trust
- Natural Areas Association
- New Jersey Audubon
- Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park
- Vermont Center for Ecostudies
- Wildlife Management Institute
- Woodwell Climate Research Center