

# Applied Research & Innovation Initiative Proposal Submissions - 2026 Cycle

[ARII Applications](#) will close on October 31, 2025 at 11:59 PM. Late submissions will not be accepted. Any questions should be sent to Candice Vinson, ARII Program Manager, at [cmvinson@wm.edu](mailto:cmvinson@wm.edu). More information about ARII can be found [on the ARII website](#).

Please note:

- Researchers may be listed on more than one project submitted to ARII. Multiple submissions **are allowed**.
- It is required that undergraduate students are actively mentored as part of the research team.
- Graduate students may be involved in addition to undergraduate students if that is appropriate to your project.
- The project lead should fill the application out. This will be the main point of contact for this project, and their department will receive and administer the funds.
- Follow directions for section length and requested information as outlined in the RFP below.
- Inclusion of images at the end of the proposal will be accepted.

## Part 1- Basic Information

Project Title or Working Title

Your First Name (Project Lead)

Your Last Name

Your W&M Email Address

Your W&M unit/department affiliation

List all other researchers that will be involved, as well as their unit/department.

## Part 2 - Project Information

### Scope of the Project

In no more than two paragraphs, please explain:

- How your project incorporates at least two of the Vision 2026 pillars: Careers, Data, Democracy, and Water. Careers should always be included, as we are looking to provide career preparedness opportunities for students.
- Interdisciplinary aspects of your project and what internal W&M units and external entities (if any) will be brought together to tackle the issue at hand.

### Student Recruitment, Mentoring, and Research Activities

In no more than one page, please explain:

- How will you recruit suitable students to collaborate on this project?
- What elements of the project will these students be involved in and how will you mentor those students to be successful in those activities?
- What are your plans to retain and support students throughout the project?

### Timeline

In no more than 1 page, please outline the major activities and milestones anticipated for each of the semesters (spring, summer, fall) of this two year research project.

### Project Description

In no more than two pages, please describe:

- The rationale and background for the project
- The anticipated impact on society (i.e. its applied audience)
- The research objectives/questions along with any hypotheses and predictions (if appropriate)
- An outline of the methodologies and approaches that your team will use to meet your objectives
- How the team you have constructed have the background and access to resources to complete the project

## Expected Deliverables

In no more than one page, please describe:

- The intended deliverables that will be produced from this project
- How those relate to the objectives of the project
- How those deliverables will meet the needs of your external audience (i.e. relate to the applied nature of the project)

## Sustainability Plans

In no more than two paragraphs, please indicate possible and/or current sources of external support that you intend to explore as part of this project. We are interested in hearing what your plans are for sustaining the project beyond the seed funding offered by ARII.

## Budget

In no more than a page, please list all major expenses using the categories below, along with a sentence justification for each:

- Faculty/staff researcher stipends (up to \$45,000 per year, minimum 3 research personnel)
- Undergraduate student researcher stipends (up to \$12,000 per year - \$4,000 per student)
- Research costs; allowable expenditures include: supplies, research travel, additional student stipends, participant costs, small equipment items (up to \$25,000 per year)
- Conference expenses (for second year only, \$6,000)