



CIESRDS Strategic Plan

NA22OAR4320151 funds the CIESRDS grant, managed by CIRES at CU Boulder, and supports research and collaboration with NOAA.

Given the structure of CIESRDS, the strategic plan is a living document that will be revised continually to incorporate any new guidance or directives with each new award period. Below are the current strategic imperatives developed out of the current cooperative agreement.

- 1. Conduct high-quality Earth system research and data science in collaboration with and service to NOAA to support society's resilience to environmental change.**
 - a. Support a comprehensive series of integrated research programs to produce world-class Earth system research and data science that is in service to society, and close collaboration with NOAA.
 - b. Collaborate with NOAA to develop annual science plans that ensure our research agenda remains ambitious, innovative, and achievable, and that it aligns with the current priorities of our NOAA partners.
 - c. Be flexible as Earth system research and data science needs evolve, CIESRDS will respond, both through our collaboration with NOAA and through other sources of external funding that complement our NOAA portfolio.
 - d. Be highly connected to Colorado's collaborative Earth system research and data science community; this research network enables quick response to needs and efficient use of federal and other resources.
- 2. Train and inspire a diverse and skilled future Earth system and data science workforce for NOAA and beyond.**
 - a. Support robust workforce development programs to promote excellence while inspiring engagement, innovation, collaboration, and leadership at all levels.
 - b. Work to ensure a positive and healthy culture at CIRES and incorporate CU Boulder's Inclusive Excellence elements into our systems and practices across the organization.
 - c. Support the professional development of Graduate Students and Post-docs with training, fellowships, travel and meeting support, mentoring, networking, and other programs.



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- d. Improve the current and future research enterprise through postdoctoral and visiting scientist programs.
 - e. Employ and mentor undergraduate students through multiple programs and initiatives.
- 3. Grow Earth system research and data science literacy in learners of all ages.**
- a. Connect NOAA and CIRES/CIESRDS-funded science with educators, learners, communities, and future scientists.
 - i. Work closely with NOAA to provide content for various outward-facing sites and resources.
 - ii. Promote and strengthen scientific and environmental literacy by engaging communities.
 - b. Encourage media coverage of our science.
 - i. Work with NOAA, CU Boulder, and other partners to assist the media, policymakers, scientific colleagues, and funders in understanding the value of earth system research and data science carried out by NOAA and CIESRDS.
 - c. Improve public understanding of science.
 - i. Enhancing scientific and environmental literacy utilizing Science On a Sphere and improving understanding, value, and weather and water information through services to the public and the K-12 education community.
 - ii. Support external communication to enhance public education.
- 4. Provide the robust scientific and administrative infrastructure to run a cooperative institute cost-effectively, to successfully fulfill NOAA's needs and objectives.**
- a. Hire and retain a robust administrative support network that serves CIESRDS scientists and NOAA partners at NOAA facilities.
 - i. Provide professional development opportunities, onboarding, town halls, and access to CU campus community groups and wellness resources.
 - ii. Provide mentoring programs that further connect CIESRDS/CIRES scientists and NOAA partners.
 - b. Enhance communication between CIESRDS, CIRES, and NOAA
 - i. Participate in the NOAA CI Directors Executive Committee and CI Directors and Administrators annual meetings.
 - ii. Lead the formation and organization of a CIESRDS Executive Board made up of both CIESRDS and NOAA representatives.
 - c. Provide high-quality pre-and post-award administration support services.
 - i. Work in partnership with CU Boulder's Office of Contracts and others to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, and funding agency regulations, and university policies, as well as award terms and
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conditions.

- ii. Monitor all expenditures to ensure they are compliant, reasonable, allowable, and allocable to the project.
- iii. Effectively manage the pursuit of funding opportunities that further serve the interests of NOAA and the cooperative agreement.