

Natural Hazards Center Research Award Programs

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National Institutes
of Health



NHERI



Natural Hazards
Center



CONVERGE

NSF Awards #1635593 and #2536173



Overview

Natural Hazards Center

Since 1976, we have served as the National Science Foundation-designated information clearinghouse for the societal dimensions of hazards and disasters.

Building
Connections

Translating and
Sharing Information

Advancing Social
Science and
Interdisciplinary
Research

Training and
Mentoring the Next
Generation

hazards.colorado.edu



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Natural Hazards Center Research Award Programs

Natural Hazards Center Research Award Programs

Quick
Response

Mitigation
Matters

Public Health

Weather
Ready

Health and
Extreme
Weather



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Quick Response Research Award Program

Launched in 1986

Awards Up to
\$5,000

371 Reports
Published

Open Rolling

Many Disaster
Specific Special
Calls

hazards.colorado.edu/research/quick-response-program/overview



Quick Response Research Award Program

*Provides funds and training for researchers to **collect perishable data** in the aftermath of extreme events to document disaster before memories fade and physical evidence is erased.*



Health and Extreme Weather Research Award Program

Launched in 2023

3 Unique Calls for
Proposals

\$10,000 to \$50,000

21 Projects
Funded

71 Investigators
Supported

11 Reports and
Research Briefs
Published

hazards.colorado.edu/research/health-and-extreme-weather-research



National Institutes
of Health



Health and Extreme Weather Research Award Program

*With funding from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation—this program supports research about the **health risks** and consequences associated with **wildfires, hurricanes, droughts, floods, heat, and other extreme weather events** in the United States.*



Future Research Funding

- **Quick Response Research Award Program**
 - Now open!
 - \$50,000 to fund ~10 new awards
- **Health and Extreme Weather Research Award Program**
 - Currently closed
 - Funding for new call is under review
 - If approved, we will open a new call in the Fall, 2026

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Research Proposals

Proposal Overview

- Proposals must follow all **submission guidelines**.
- Funds must be used to study an extreme weather event that occurred **within 6 months or less** of proposal submission.
- Geographic focus must be within a **U.S. state, territory, or tribal nation**.
- Proposals will be accepted on a **rolling basis** until funds are exhausted.



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Required Proposal Criteria

- **Robust Research Design.**
 - The research design should be the bulk of your proposal.
 - Take care to **fully describe** each aspect of your data collection and analysis plan.
 - Include a robust discussion of ethical considerations.
 - *For more guidance, complete CONVERGE Training Modules and review Extreme Events Research Check Sheets!*
- **Feasible Timeline.** Provide a timeline for data collection, analysis, and report writing that is achievable in the award's period of performance (~6 months).
- **Perishable Data.** Explain why the data being collected qualifies as perishable.
- **Health-Relevant Data.** The data collected must focus on the physical or mental health outcomes associated with an extreme weather event.
- **Solutions-Focused.** Demonstrate how your research has the potential to reduce the health consequences of extreme weather.



Desired Proposal Criteria

- **Interdisciplinary.** Projects that involve investigators from multiple disciplines.
- **Local Partnerships.** Include plans to collaborate with local partners in designing and executing the research project and returning the results to the affected community.
- **Transformative Data Collection Approaches.** Proposals that plan to use state-of-the-art reconnaissance instrumentation from the NSF- and NIH-funded [RAPID facility](#) are strongly encouraged. Investigators who plan to use RAPID equipment should contact the RAPID team at uwrapid@uw.edu to discuss the feasibility of your research plan and budget.
- **Data Publication.** Include plans to publish research instruments on the [Disaster Research Response \(DR2\) Resources Portal](#) and data using [DesignSafe](#) and/or the [CAFÉ Dataverse Collection](#).
- **Reference or Baseline Data.** Research design uses secondary data collected prior to the disaster as a reference point or baseline to interpret disaster impacts.



Generative AI Policy

*Authors **must develop and present their original ideas** in all work they submit to the Natural Hazards Center. As a matter of scholarly integrity, generative AI tools should never be used to create data, original scholarly writing, or other related outputs.*

Guiding Principles

1. Maintain Ethical Rigor
2. Take Responsibility
3. Be Transparent
4. Provide Attribution

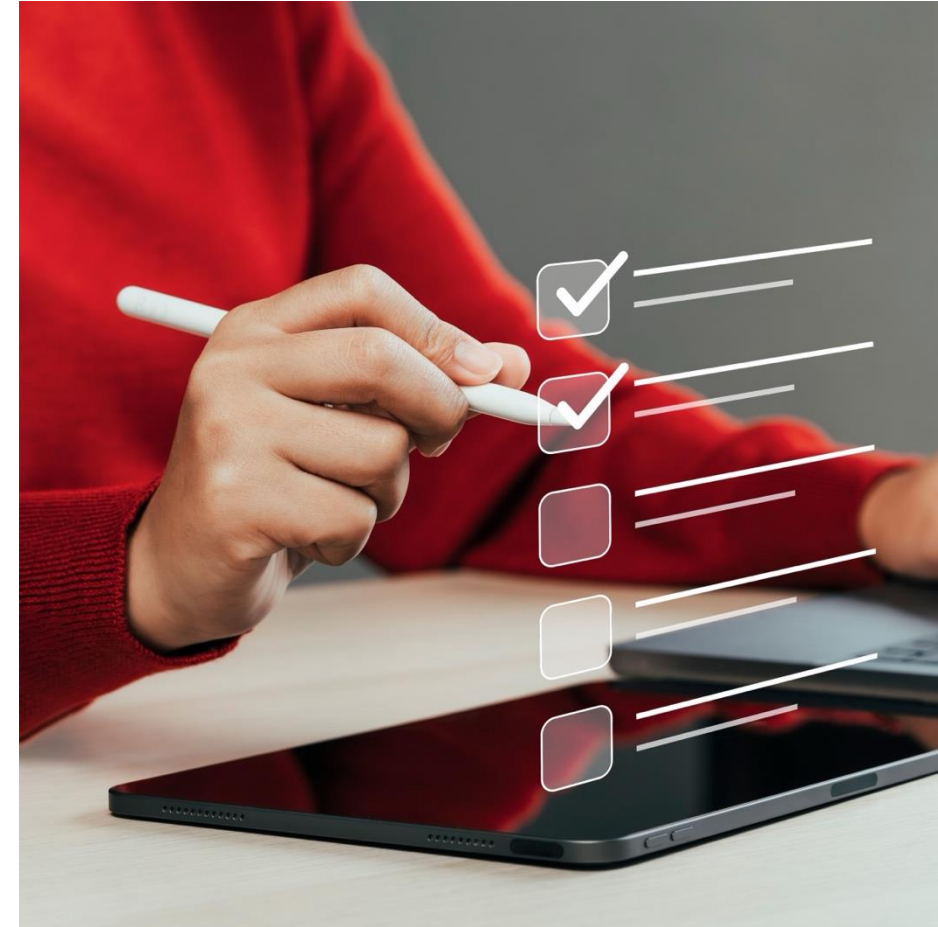
<https://hazards.colorado.edu/research/nhc-policy-on-use-of-generative-ai>



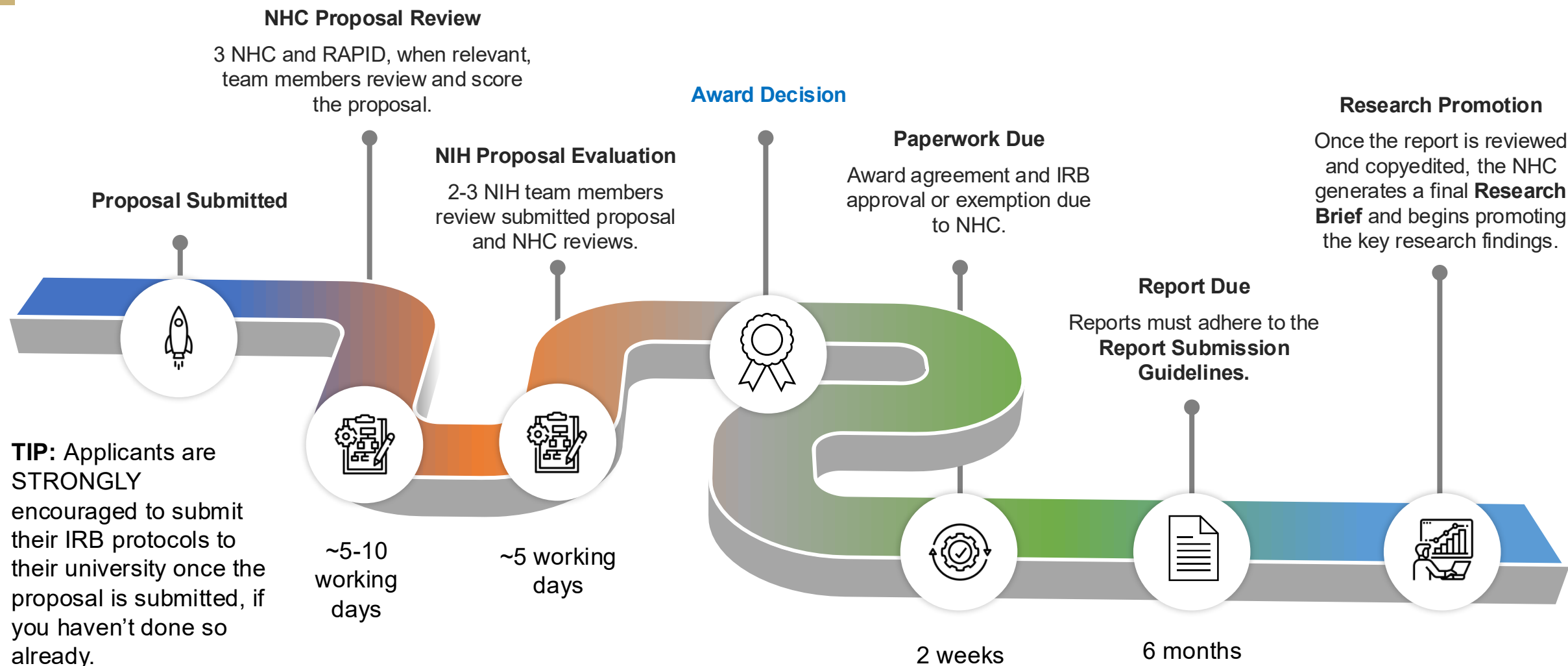
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Award Funding Requirements

- The lead investigator **must have a Ph.D.** and be from an academic institution in the United States.
- May need to **begin collecting data prior to funding** being issued.
- **IRB approval** or exemption must be submitted **before data collection can begin**.
- Payments will be sent **directly to the award recipients** (NOT their university).
- Award funding can be distributed to up to **five people**.
- Awardees will be solely **responsible for all tax reporting** and ramifications. The University of Colorado Boulder will report payments to taxing jurisdictions.
- You can **include the estimated taxes** in your budget.



Award Program Timeline



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Natural Hazards Center Research Award Programs

Key Deliverables

Within **6 months** of award activation, funded research teams produce **20-page reports** on the study's preliminary findings. Each report is accompanied by a **Research Brief** that highlights key policy and practice implications.

Recent Reports Include:

HEW11 | Examining Hurricane Helene Flooding Vulnerabilities and Health Disparities in Southern Appalachia (2026)

HEW9 | Longitudinal Evaluation of Wildfire Impacts on an Unhoused Cohort in Los Angeles (2026)

Find full reports and briefs at:

hazards.colorado.edu/research/health-and-extreme-weather-report/archives



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Peer Review Process

- **Peer Review.** Two reviewers will read your draft report and provide you with detailed written comments and suggestions for revision within 4 weeks of submission.
- **Submit Revised Report.** You will be asked to revise your report in response to reviewer comments and submit a revised version by an agreed-upon deadline.
- **Copyediting.** NHC staff will copyedit the revised draft, and you will be contacted to approve changes.
- **Research Brief.** In consultation with the lead author, NHC staff will draft a 2-page research brief with the key findings, policy implications, and intended audience of your report.
- **Publication.** After the report and brief are finalized, they will be published as part of the [Health and Extreme Weather Research Award Program Reports](#) series on the Natural Hazards Center website and widely promoted.



Research Award Program Team



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Acknowledgments



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CONVERGE | Natural Hazards Center

INSTITUTE OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

converge.colorado.edu/resources

About CONVERGE ■

Research Networks ■

Resources ■

Data ■

Communications ■

Resources Overview

Training Modules

Check Sheets

COVID-19 Resources



Advancing the ethical conduct and scientific rigor of hazards and disaster research
and strengthening networks between disciplinary communities.

Resources



CONVERGE Training Modules

converge.colorado.edu/resources/training-modules/



Broader Ethical Considerations for Hazards and Disaster Researchers

Collecting and Sharing Perishable Data

Conducting Emotionally Challenging Research

Cultural Competence in Hazards and Disaster Research

Disaster Mental Health

Indigenous Sovereignty in Disaster Research

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Procedures and Extreme Events Research

Older Adults and Disasters

Positionality in Hazards and Disaster Research and Practice

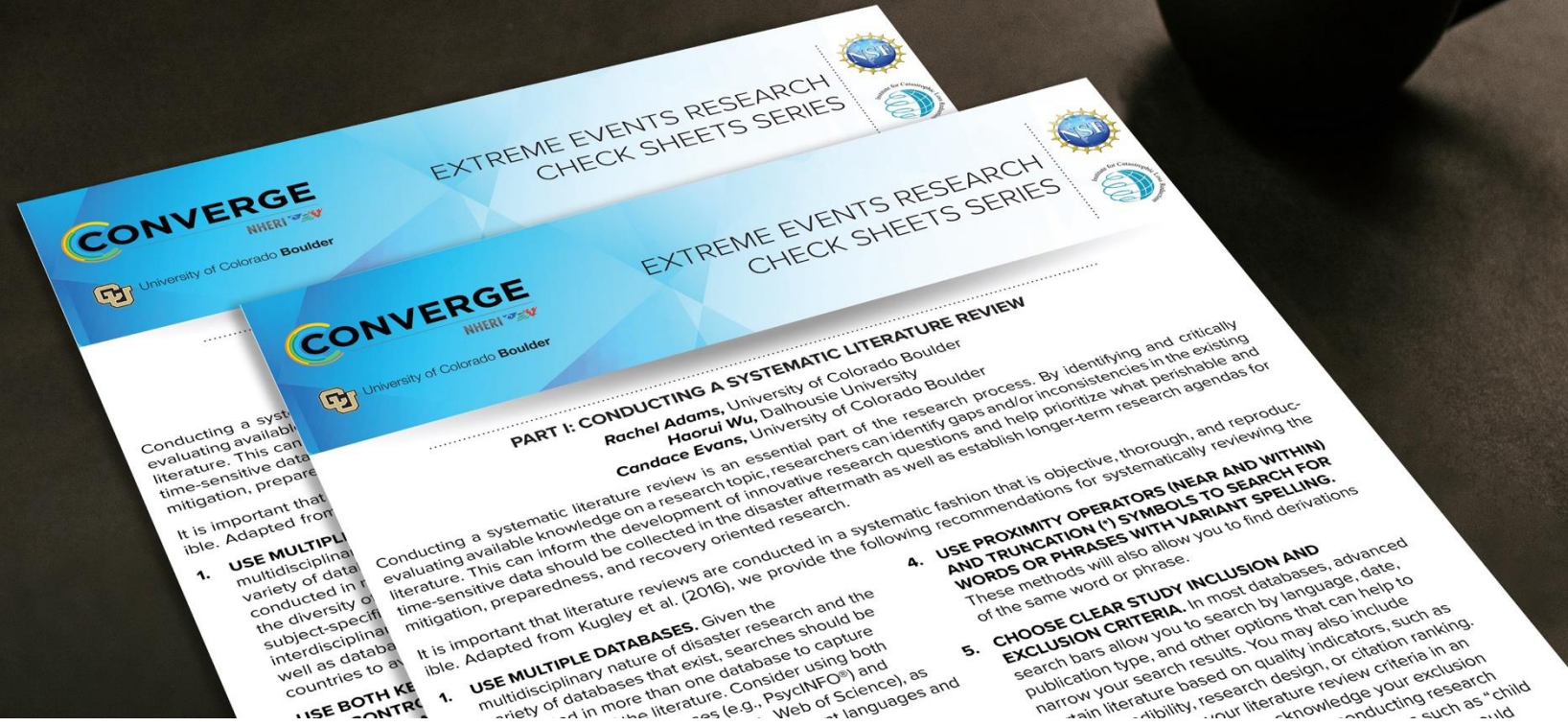
Public Health Implications of Hazards and Disaster Research

Reciprocity in Hazards and Disaster Research

Social Vulnerability and Disasters

Understanding and Ending Gender-Based Violence in Fieldwork

CONVERGE Extreme Events Research Check Sheets Series



converge.colorado.edu/resources/check-sheets/



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Natural Hazards Center Research Award Programs

Webinars and Virtual Forums

converge.colorado.edu/category/webinars/

converge.colorado.edu/category/virtual-forums/



[Communications](#) / CONVERGE Webinar Series

CONVERGE webinars feature updates regarding new projects and initiatives relevant to various research communities. Please see below for informational and demonstration webinars describing key resources available to the hazards and disaster research community.

Past Webinar Recordings:



[Communications](#) / CONVERGE Virtual Forums

Communicate. Coordinate. Collaborate.

CONVERGE Virtual Forums bring together researchers and research partners to more effectively *communicate, coordinate, and collaborate* after major disaster events. These forums focus on identifying research needs and priorities, discussing ethical considerations, and learning about the early effects of disaster.

Past Forum Recordings:





Questions?



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THANK YOU



Questions? Contact:

haz.research.awards@colorado.edu

hazards.colorado.edu

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