

**Opportunity Title:** Graduate Research Fellow - Community Flood Risk

Communication

**Opportunity Reference Code:** ERDC-CHL-2021-0015

**Organization** U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

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**How to Apply** Click on *Apply* now to start your application.

**Description** The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center's Coastal & Hydraulics Laboratory (CHL) performs research on ocean, estuarine, riverine, and watershed systems in support of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Department of Defense (DOD) Task Force in support of the Ocean Commission. A multi-disciplinary team of scientists, engineers, and support personnel work in CHL's internationally known, unique facilities. This team has developed state-of-the-art experimental and computational models for solving water resource problems worldwide. Physical facilities of approximately 1.7 million square feet and high-performance computing facilities at the DOD Supercomputing Research Center (<http://www.erdchpc.mil>) are the basic infrastructure for producing cutting-edge products for successful coastal, inland water resources, and navigation management. CHL work, although primarily in support of the DOD and the Corp's districts, also interfaces with other federal, state and local agencies, academia, conservation groups, and the general public, as appropriate. The Research Participation Program for USACE-ERDC-CHL provides opportunities to participate in new and on-going applied research and development projects. Research projects range from design guidance to three-dimensional computational models. Focus is placed on inland and coastal navigation, military logistics over the shore, dredging, flood control, storm and erosion protection, waterway restoration, fish passage, hydro-environmental modeling, water/land management, and other water and sediment-related issues facing the nation. For more information about USACE-ERDC-CHL, please visit <https://www.erdchpc.usace.army.mil/Locations/CHL/>.

This project will be in support of a larger effort between ERDC-CHL and the University of Alabama to develop hazard forecasting and coastal resilience models, and to improve flood risk communication within the emergency management community and to the public. This program is assessing compound flooding hazards along the US coast, and developing models and tools to better understand compound threats, hazard characterization, and risk communication.

#### What will I be doing?

Under the guidance of a mentor, you will investigate behavior and perceptions of the public around flood risk. Fellowship tasks will include: 1) contributing to survey questionnaire development for pre-, during, and post-hurricane season surveys of coastal community residents; 2) assisting with analysis and documentation of survey results; 3) contributing to developing methodology for and conducting focus groups with emergency management leaders in coastal communities; 4) identifying actionable lessons learned to improve compound flood risk communication to the public; and 5) contributing to peer-reviewed manuscripts and technical reports preparation. The project will be co-managed by researchers at ERDC-CHL and The University of Alabama.

#### Why should I apply?

This fellowship provides the opportunity to utilize your skills and learn from experts within the Hydrologic Systems Branch.

**Where will I be located?** Vicksburg, Mississippi

#### What is the anticipated start date?

ERDC-CHL is ready to make an appointment immediately. Exact start date will be determined at

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the time of selection and in coordination with the selected candidates.

**What are the benefits?**

You will receive a stipend to be determined by ERDC-CHL. Stipends are typically based on the participant's academic standing, discipline, experience, and research facility location. Other benefits may include the following:

- Health Insurance Supplement. Participants are eligible to purchase health insurance through ORISE.
- Relocation Allowance
- Training and Travel Allowance

This ORISE appointment is a part-time twelve month opportunity. Appointments may be extended depending on funding availability, project assignment, program rules, and availability of the participant.

**Nature of the Appointment**

You will not enter into an employee/employer relationship with ORISE, ORAU, DOD, or any other office or agency. Instead, you will be affiliated with ORISE for the administration of the appointment through the ORISE appointment letter and Terms of Appointment.

**Qualifications** You should be a current student in or recent graduate of a Master's or PhD level graduate program with a social sciences focus (geography, sociology, anthropology, psychology, public policy, or similar).

Relevant interests and skills:

- Understanding of risk communication, and experience with communicating natural hazard risk to the public
- Exposure to natural disaster and hazard studies
- Experience conducting survey and focus group studies
- Strong scientific writing skills
- Comfort with interdisciplinary research and applying theoretical knowledge to practice

A complete application consists of:

- Zintellect profile
- Essay Questions - The application includes questions specific to the opportunity
- Academic Records - An official transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted.
- One (1) recommendation - You are encouraged to request a recommendation from a professional who can speak to your abilities and potential for success as well as your scientific capabilities and personal characteristics. Recommendation requests must be sent through the Zintellect application system. Recommenders will be asked to complete a recommendation in Zintellect. Letters of recommendation submitted via email will not be accepted.

*Submitted documents must have all social security numbers, student identification numbers, and/or dates of birth removed (blacked out, blackened out, made illegible, etc.) prior to uploading into the application system. If you have questions, send an email to [usace@orise.orau.gov](mailto:usace@orise.orau.gov). Please list the reference code of this opportunity in the subject line of the email. All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.*

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- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
  - **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or currently pursuing.
  - **Overall GPA:** 3.00
  - **Discipline(s):**
    - **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#) 👁)
    - **Engineering** ([27](#) 👁)
    - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#) 👁)
    - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([46](#) 👁)
    - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([29](#) 👁)
  - **Age:** Must be 18 years of age