

## **Midwest Climate Adaptation Science Center Graduate Assistantship at UW-Madison**

We are seeking applications for the Midwest Climate Adaptation Science Center (Midwest CASC) Graduate Assistantship for the 2025-26 academic year (Sept 2025-August 2026). Current or incoming UW-Madison Ph.D. or M.S. students pursuing research applicable to the mission of the Midwest CASC are eligible for consideration. One research assistantship, which includes tuition, will be awarded. Students interested in working with state, federal, non-governmental, and tribal natural resource managers to create actionable science are particularly encouraged to apply. The University of Wisconsin-Madison is part of the USGS [Midwest Climate Adaptation Science Center](#) (Midwest CASC) consortium. The mission of the Midwest CASC is to advance adaptation science and practice needed to address climate change threats to natural and cultural resources of the Midwest region. The Midwest CASC provides opportunities for research to support climate adaptation decision-making, training related to climate adaptation, researcher-stakeholder networking, and community engagement. To learn more about the Midwest CASC and currently funded projects, please visit the [USGS Midwest CASC website](#).

### **GUIDELINES**

#### **Required:**

1. Pursuing research applicable to the mission of the Midwest CASC.
2. Participation in Midwest CASC training and educational opportunities (e.g., annual gatherings, online seminars). Graduate advisor acknowledges assistantship support and agrees to enable participation.
3. Current or incoming UW-Madison Ph.D. or M.S. student.

#### **Preferred:**

1. Interest in contributing to the capacity-building aims of the Midwest CASC.
2. Past or current experience working with conservation agencies and/or tribal entities engaged in climate change science and adaptation.
3. Additional project support contributed from applicant's advisor or other departmental support.

#### **To Apply:**

Submit the following as a single PDF to Kelly O'Ferrell ([oferrell@wisc.edu](mailto:oferrell@wisc.edu)): 1) 2-page (max) letter of interest from the graduate student; 2) Resume/CV of the graduate student; 3) Letter of support from faculty adviser. Application deadline is **May 7, 2025**. (Updated from May 5 to May 7)

The letter of interest from the applicant should describe the research that will be pursued and how this research is applicable to the mission of the Midwest CASC. Graduate advisors should provide a letter of support that describes how the CASC assistantship would benefit the student and how it would fit into the overall funding plan. The advisor's letter should also indicate that they will enable the applicant's participation in Midwest CASC training and educational opportunities. Questions can be directed to Prof. Jake Vander Zanden ([mjvanderzand@wisc.edu](mailto:mjvanderzand@wisc.edu)) or Prof. Ben Zuckerberg ([bzuckerberg@wisc.edu](mailto:bzuckerberg@wisc.edu)).

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