

Cooperative Science Centers Performance Reporting Definitions

Student Support - Annually, thirty percent (30%) of total CSC award funding – prior to any overhead costs – is mandated for direct student support.

Education Outcomes

Full Support – to CSC-supported students, includes but is not limited to, receiving EPP funding for: (i) full tuition as funds directly paid to support student who is pursuing a degree (Associate, baccalaureate, Master’s doctoral) program in a NOAA mission critical STEM field; and/or (ii) full stipend while pursuing a degree program in a NOAA mission critical STEM field (for laboratory/computer/equipment fees, books, transportation and lodging support when conducting CSC/NOAA research activities – excludes cost of research materials & supplies, or other expenses for research). Each Cooperative Science Center must clearly provide information to identify full support for the purpose of reporting outputs and outcomes.

Partial Support – EPP supported students receiving EPP funds for the following or any part thereof:

- (1) Tuition to pursue a degree program in a NOAA mission critical STEM field;
- (2) Stipend while pursuing a degree program in a NOAA mission critical STEM field (for laboratory/computer/equipment fees, books, transportation and lodging support when conducting CSC/NOAA research activities – excludes cost of research materials & supplies, or other expenses for research);
- (3) Training to increase competence while completing a degree program in NOAA mission critical STEM field;
- (4) Conference Travel (to participate in experiential research at NOAA facilities or other CSCs or NOAA programs, present at scientific conferences/meetings, training, professional development); and
- (5) Registration (for Conferences or Workshops or Forum).

Each Cooperative Science Center must clearly provide information to identify partial support for the purpose of reporting outputs and outcomes.

Students Supported – any eligible (See Handbook, p.21,- IV., C.1.g.) student enrolled in a degree program in a NOAA mission-relevant STEM discipline at an accredited U.S. institution pursuing a postsecondary degree in a field that supports NOAA’s mission and receiving either full or partial support from EPP funding. Using CSC funds to support ineligible student(s) will be a breach of this Cooperative Agreement.

Students Trained – any student (supported by CSC or other funding) in a postsecondary degree program that successfully completes a minimum of one CSC Course. Student must be enrolled in degree program(s) including coursework and/or experiential CSC research to develop knowledge and skills relevant to the NOAA mission-relevant STEM disciplines for the Center award. Each Cooperative Science Center must clearly provide information to identify NOAA mission-relevant disciplines for their CSC award for the purpose of reporting outputs and outcomes.

CSC Course – any course that will be a requirement to earn a degree in a NOAA mission-relevant STEM field. Any course developed through CSC funding and/or taught by personnel supported with CSC funding including, new courses developed through expertise in CSC faculty, and/or courses offered through expertise of CSC faculty, and/or any required courses offered by an accredited institution of higher education that is required for a NOAA mission-relevant STEM degree. Each Cooperative Science Center must identify CSC courses for the purpose of reporting outputs and outcomes.

Graduated Student – any CSC-supported student who has **completed a degree** (Associate, baccalaureate, Master’s, doctoral).

Leveraged Student – any student in a degree program in a NOAA mission-relevant STEM discipline, and not supported by CSC funding, who participates in CSC education and/or research and/or outreach to increase STEM knowledge and skills.

Engagement [Outreach]

Engagement [Outreach] – opportunities designed to build awareness, develop relationships, and inspire action. Outreach involves the communication of the CSC’s mission and goals as they support NOAA’s mission to a wide variety of audiences that includes K-14 students, educators, and the public.

Outreach Participant – any individual who delivers or is the recipient of training and includes CSC faculty, staff and/or students, K-14 students, educators, and the public.

Training – a process of transferring knowledge and skills using standardized instructional methods and techniques to specified participants for the purpose of developing and enhancing NOAA mission-relevant STEM competencies.

Scientific/Research

Collaboration – CSC is engaged with others in project/activity where all of the following attributes exist: (i) design and definition, (ii) end-to-end, (iii) defined deliverable(s) that are agreed on at the start of the collaboration, (iv) outputs – time-bound, (v) benefits NOAA and Center(s)/partners, and (vi) builds capacity. **Collaboration includes such activities as:** - writing proposal jointly; seminar series; designing course/class; developing new programs; hosting students; and coordinated workshops e.g. at national meetings.

Research Collaboration with NOAA – CSC engages in joint activities with one or more NOAA Line and/or Staff Office or Federal employee.

Research Collaboration with NOAA Mission-related Environmental and Natural Resources Entities – CSC engages in joint activities with Federal, state, local and/or tribal governments, academic and private sectors, and/or non-governmental organizations.

Research Collaboration with NOAA-Supported Entities – CSC engages in joint activities with entities such as the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS), and/or Cooperative Institutes (CI).

Leveraged Resources

Leveraged Resources – any contributions, other than the Federal share/non-Federal share acquired for award, as specified in award documents. Leveraged resources can be cash or in-kind contributions. Examples of leveraged resources include: **(i)** use of NOAA research vessels - ship time, air time; **(ii)** NOAA Line/Staff Offices Cash and/or in-kind contributions; **(iii)** University contributions (Overhead return – cannot be counted); **(iv)** resources from other sources. When reporting leveraged resources – it is necessary to define the nature of the resources and relationship to achievement of CSC award objectives.