

Great Lakes Observing System Technician Professional Development Fund Proposals due November 21, 2025

Organizational Background

GLOS' mission, as laid out in [GLOS 2020-2025 Strategic Plan](#), is to provide end-to-end data services that support science, policy, management, and industry in the Great Lakes. In collaboration with U.S. and Canadian academic, non- and for-profit organizations, as well as federal, state, provincial, and local government agencies, GLOS coordinates activities and supports a diverse suite of technologies that include nearshore and offshore monitoring platforms, autonomous vehicles, as well as shore and ship-based observing platforms. GLOS integrates data from these systems with the goal of providing products and services that help fill data and information gaps to improve the use and management of the lakes.

Program Goals, Application and Review Process

The focus of this program is to provide funding to help support professional development of observing-related technicians within the Great Lakes region, with preference towards those who are currently part of a GLOS data provider institution. Requests from academic institutions and non-profit organizations will be considered. We plan to notify successful applicants by December 10, 2025.

The purpose of this fund is to strengthen technical capacity and promote workforce sustainability across the Great Lakes observing community by supporting participation in trainings, workshops, and certifications that enhance observing, data management, or field operations skills.

Prospective applicants are welcomed to contact GLOS (proposals@glos.org) before applying to discuss proposal alignment with the program. GLOS may also want to explore if the identified opportunity could be brought to the region to allow more participation.

The proposal should be up to two pages (12-point font with 1" margins) and describe the

- 1) need or justification for the proposed activity,
- 2) professional development opportunity, website (if available),
- 3) anticipated impact of participation on the applicant's skills, institution, and the broader observing community and
- 4) estimated cost, including registration, travel, and lodging.

The applicant should also attach his/her CV (up to 2-pages). Proposals should be sent electronically as a single PDF attachment to proposals@glos.org.

Proposals will be reviewed by GLOS staff to assess 1) alignment with the RFP program goals, 2) relevance of the information/data produced by the observing platform to stakeholders and 3) ability to sustain the operations and maintenance of the asset long-term. GLOS reserves the right to request additional information or adjust award amounts based on available funding.

Typical awards are expected to range up to \$3,000 per award. Eligible expenses include registration fees, travel, lodging, and other direct costs associated with participation in the proposed training or certification. Indirect costs are not allowable under this program.]

Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report within 30 days of the project completion, summarizing:

- The activity or training completed;
- Skills or knowledge gained;
- How the experience supports ongoing observing work; and
- Any recommended opportunities for regional collaboration or training replication.