INTRODUCTION

The Community Resilience Catalyst (Catalyst) will provide education and technical support to a select number of south Louisiana communities in their efforts to advance resilience. Requests for technical support will be accepted on a rolling basis and all efforts must be completed by Oct. 31, 2026.

The technical support is **not** a grant program. The request will be for technical support and capacity that can be deployed relatively quickly and flexibly to bring more diversity to the landscape of community resilience. The intention is to overcome barriers that often arise when there is a need for technical work, research, planning, or similar activities, which can be delayed or prevented because it requires the capacity to manage funds or the timing does not align.

While communities will be selected for technical support on a rolling basis, not all communities in south Louisiana will be eligible. The Center has created eligibility and scoring rubrics to prioritize local government, faith-based organizations, or community-based organizations serving often overlooked areas of south Louisiana.

It is also important to note that this effort is currently being supported through federal funding, which means that the effort could be subject to pauses or other delays based on decisions from the federal government. We are moving forward with this effort and we hope to open the portal May 1, 2025; however, there are factors outside of our control that could impact the timeline, scope, or funding available to move forward. We will continue to keep you informed of any updates or changes.

ELIGIBILITY

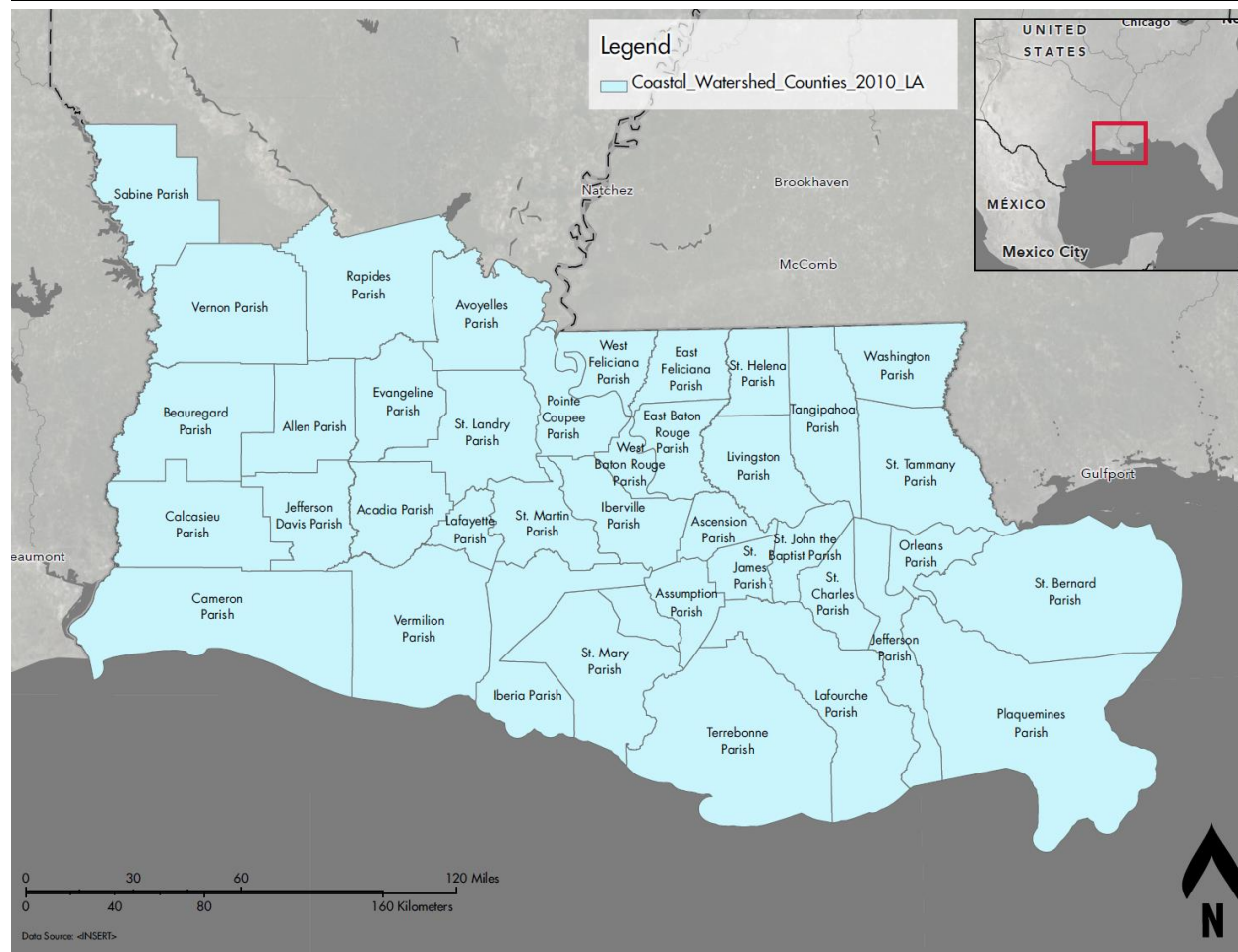| Eligibility Criterion	Description
Louisiana Coastal Watershed Parish	Request supports a community in a Louisiana coastal or coastal watershed parish based on NOAA coastal watersheds.
Local Government or Community-based Organization	Requestor is a local government (town, city, or parish) in coastal Louisiana or a community-based organization serving populations in a coastal Louisiana town, city, or parish.
Underserved or Marginalized Community	Requestor must provide justification that their community has historically been marginalized or underserved.
Request Completed in 1 Year	The requested technical support can be completed within one year of the project beginning.
Addressing Vulnerability	The request must address at least one of three vulnerability factors: exposure, sensitivity, adaptive capacity.
Addressing the Social Determinants of Health	The request must address at least one of the five social determinants of health: education, health care, neighborhoods and built environment, social and community context, or economy.

Figure 1. Map of Louisiana Coastal and Coastal Watershed Parishes that are eligible for educational and technical support opportunities.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT REQUEST TEMPLATE

This is a template of the request form for technical support from the Community Resilience Catalyst. Once the request portal is open, requestors will submit their information via an online form on the Catalyst website (https://thewaterinstitute.org/projects/crc/catalyst).

Section One: Who is Requesting

Point of contact name:

Point of contact email:

Point of contact phone number:

Name of organization:

Type of organization (select one):

- Service non-profit organization that is a registered 501c3

- Service non-profit organization that is **not** a registered 501c3

- Environmental non-profit organization is a registered 501c3

- Environmental non-profit organization that is **not** a registered 501c3

- Community-based organization that is a registered 501c3

- Community-based organization that is **not** a registered 501c3

- Local government (parish, town, city, etc.)

- Faith-based organization

- Other [please describe]

Point of contact's role with the organization:

Does your organization have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)?

[Yes- drop down to provide it; No; Unsure]

Has your organization received federal funding before?

[Yes; No; Unsure]

Has your organization received funding related to this request's area of focus before?

[Yes—open ended answer to "Please describe the amount of funding and what the focus of these efforts were. (Max 1,000 characters with spaces)"; No; Unsure—open ended answer to "Who can we contact to get more information about this? Please provide a name, phone number, and email address."]

Please describe the network of partners your organization regularly collaborates with. We want to know about not only the number of partners but also the types of partners you engage with (e.g., type of organization, area of focus, etc.).

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

Section Two: About Your Community

Please describe your community. We specifically want to know (1) where your community is located and (2) who makes up your community.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

How is your community <u>underserved or marginalized</u>? Please be specific about the ways in which the community the request will focus on is or has been marginalized or underserved. This can be numerically based (e.g., Census data) or narrative-based (e.g., descriptions of marginalization or lived experiences). For either, supporting these descriptions with evidence (e.g., newspaper articles, interviews, Census data) is encouraged.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

What hazards is your community exposed to? We do want to know a bit about hazards overall, but primarily we want you to focus on the risks that your request will work to address. There are examples in the scoring details (see **Error! Reference source not found.**).

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

What is the impact of the hazard(s) on your community? Recognizing how your community is sensitive to <u>hazards</u> overall is useful, but primarily we want you to focus on the specific impacts or sensitivities your community will work to address.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

Section Three: About Your Request

Request Title:

What is the problem your request seeks to address? We want you to describe the specific gap or problem your request will address—this should include evidence that demonstrates there is a gap or necessity to address this problem. This can include formal or informal community input.

[Max 1,000 characters with spaces]

What are the goal(s) and objective(s) of your request? As a reminder a goal is the overarching desired result of the request and objectives are the distinct measurable strategies/approaches that will achieve that goal.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

What are the activities that will occur in pursuit of each objective? We would like you to describe the necessary activities organized by each objective. If you do not have the technical expertise to describe this, please indicate that within the response area.

[Max 3,000 characters with spaces]

Please describe the timeline needed for implementing the requested activities. To the best of your ability please outline the estimated time needed for each activity. If you do not have the technical expertise to describe this, please indicate that within the response area.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

What are the intended outputs of this request? As a reminder, an output is a clear deliverable or product—it can range from a comprehensive plan to a physically installed pilot request to a robust proposal for submission.

[Max 1,000 characters with spaces]

What activities will this this request enable? The purpose of the Catalyst is to lower a barrier to a larger/continued resilience effort. Please describe what related activities will likely happen after this request has been completed.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

How will this request reduce vulnerability in your community? We are looking for quality over quantity on direct impacts from the request to reduce exposure, reduce sensitivity, and increase adaptive capacity. Be clear about how the impacts will be generated by the activities. Please see examples in **Error! Reference source not found.** of this document.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

How will this request improve the social determinants of health in your community? As with the impact on vulnerability, we are looking for quality over quantity on direct impacts from the request on education access and quality, health care and quality, neighborhood and built environment, social and community context, and economic stability. Be clear about how the impacts will be generated by the activities. Please see examples in **Error! Reference source not found.** of this document.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

Please describe any relevant quotes or cost assessments for aspects of your request, if any. This may include any necessary supplies, equipment, or quotes for the work that have been secured. Keep in mind any staff or technical work that will be performed by the Community Resilience Center at The Water Institute do not require cost estimates—we will do this internally.

[Max 1,500 characters with spaces]

HELPFUL DEFINITIONS

ADAPTIVE CAPACITY. Adaptive capacity refers to the ability to withstand, avoid, or adjust to acute hazards and chronic stressors.

COMMUNITY. Community can refer to a wide array of scales. Community can include parishes and counties, incorporated cities and towns, census-designated places, neighborhoods, and individuals that identify as a community, such as members of a marginalized group.

EXPOSURE. Exposure is the presence of people, assets, and ecosystems where they can be adversely affected by acute hazards, such as floods, oil spills, and extreme heat events, and chronic stressors, such as air, water, and noise pollution and rising sea levels.

MARGINALIZED. Groups of people that have been excluded from political processes and decision-making processes.

RESILIENCE. Resilience is an ongoing process to reduce vulnerability.

SENSITIVITY. Sensitivity is the degree to which an individual or a community is impacted by an acute hazard or chronic stressor.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT. Technical work, research, planning, facilitation, engagement, or similar activities to advance efforts in south Louisiana communities.

UNDERSERVED. Groups of people that have currently or historically received inadequate or disproportionately low levels of service and resources.

VULNERABILITY. Vulnerability is the intersection of exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity.