



J-WAFS Grant for Water Research Workshop (Up to \$5,000)

Fall 2025 Call for Proposals

With support from the water filtration company [Rorra](#), J-WAFS solicits proposals from MIT researchers to organize a research workshop to explore critical challenges and research opportunities in the water sector. The workshop should aim to deepen understanding of water-related challenges by fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and bringing in new perspectives, in-line with the [J-WAFS mission](#).

We are offering this grant for a team to develop specific objectives and an agenda, identify and recruit participants, conduct the workshop at MIT, and produce a brief summary report.

Deadline to apply: 11:59 p.m ET on Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Eligibility:

Open to MIT faculty, graduate students, postdocs, and research staff. Applicants may be individuals or small teams.

Format:

- Funds shall be used to support a half-day to full-day workshop held **on or near MIT campus**. Organizers may propose hybrid or other formats if they better serve the objectives of the workshop.
- The workshop may include MIT presenters, invited speakers, interactive sessions, poster presentations, and hands-on demonstrations or lab tours. Activities should be designed to engage the broader MIT community and advance exploration of water challenges.
- Inclusion of external stakeholders or researchers who have deep understanding or first-hand knowledge of the water-related challenge is highly encouraged.
- Although the organizers may limit the number of participants due to space constraints and give preference to participants based on appropriate factors, the workshop should otherwise be accessible to all members of the MIT community.

Funding & Timeline:

One grant of up to \$5,000 (direct costs) is available to cover costs such as room rental, catering, external invited speaker/participant costs (travel, lodging, honoraria), small

prizes, and workshop materials. Costs such as salaries, lab equipment, research expenses, etc., are not permitted. There is no overhead. The workshop should be planned and delivered by **January 30, 2026**.

Deadline to apply: 11:59 p.m ET on Tuesday, September 30, 2025

How to Apply:

By 11:59 p.m. ET on September 30, 2025, submit your application via a short web form located here:

https://webportalapp.com/webform/jwafs_water_workshop_submission_form

Contact Longzhen Han (lhhan@mit.edu) if you have any questions.

Web form questions for the Water Sector Research Workshop Grant Application

Questions provided below only for your convenience; please fill out and submit the form here: https://webportalapp.com/webform/jwafs_water_workshop_submission_form

Section 1: Applicant Information

1. Full Name of lead workshop organizer
2. Gender
3. Pronouns
4. MIT email address
5. MIT position
6. MIT department, lab, or center
7. Additional organizers (names, titles, emails):

Section 2: Workshop Overview

8. Title of the workshop
9. What topic will the workshop focus on? (Max 100 words)
10. What are the objectives of the workshop? (Max 100 words)
11. What is the proposed date or timeframe for the workshop?
(e.g., October 2025, IAP 2026)

Section 3: Participants & Format

12. Who are your intended participants? (Max 100 words)
(e.g., invited external stakeholders, students, researchers, general MIT community, etc.)
13. How many attendees do you anticipate? (provide number range)

14. Format & Activities (Max 200 words)

Please describe the format, activities, and key elements of the workshop (e.g., panels, talks, hands-on sessions, etc.). Explain how the proposed activities will help to achieve the objectives of the workshop.

15. How will you promote the event to the intended participants? (Max 100 words)

(e.g., email lists, posters, department newsletters)

16. Why are you interested in organizing this workshop? (Max 100 words)

17. What impact do you expect the workshop to have, and why? (Max 100 words)

Section 4: Budget

18. Budget Breakdown

Please describe your anticipated costs (e.g., venue, catering, speaker honoraria, materials).

Optional

19. Anything else you would like us to know? (Max 100 words)