



**PennState**  
College of Earth  
and Mineral Sciences



**MARISA**  
a NOAA Mid-Atlantic RISA team

**VIMS**

**WILLIAM  
& MARY**

VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE

## Coastal Climate Extension Specialist for the Chesapeake Bay Region

**Gloucester, VA**

The Earth and Environmental Systems Institute (EESI) at The Pennsylvania State University, in partnership with the Mid-Atlantic RISA program (MARISA, <http://MidAtlanticRISA.org>) and the Center for Coastal Resources Management (CCRM, <http://vims.edu/ccrm/>) at the Virginia Institute for Marine Sciences (VIMS), invites applications for a full-time Coastal Climate Extension Specialist for the Chesapeake Bay region.

The Extension Specialist, employed by Penn State but hosted and stationed at VIMS, will be integrated into ongoing efforts of the CCRM and MARISA teams to provide outreach to coastal stakeholders and support climate resilience efforts around the Bay, particularly in the greater Hampton Roads region. The Coastal Climate Extension Specialist will substantially enhance MARISA's capacity to work with regional stakeholders and expand dissemination of existing as well as newly-developed data and tools to advance extreme weather and climate change resilience in the Mid-Atlantic region. Support for this work is provided through a cooperative agreement with NOAA's Climate Programs Office.

Specific responsibilities of the extension specialist will include:

1. Participating in the design, production, and dissemination of data and tools, building upon prior work of MARISA and CCRM in this area, with a particular focus on coastal climate impacts in the Hampton Roads region.
2. Collaborating with coastal communities to assist in the development of hazard mitigation plans and provide technical support for flood risk planning.
3. Contributing to the development of inventories of academic, governmental (federal, state, local), and NGO research, extension, and decision-support activities relevant to climate change and resilience in the Chesapeake Bay region.
4. Contributing to an assessment of the needs of local governments for information and technical assistance in developing resilience plans in the face of climate change.
5. Enhancing MARISA's efforts to provide timely and relevant climate-related resources through active engagement with regional stakeholders and decisionmakers to identify the most salient needs for data, tools, and training.
6. Organizing workshops and summer schools that provide stakeholders and decision makers with opportunities to learn about and share tools, data, best practices, and other resources for coastal climate risk management.
7. Building upon the existing efforts of MARISA and CCRM to foster a community of interest and practice in coastal climate risk management.

Candidates should have a Master's degree or Ph.D. in a relevant field and experience in one or more of the following areas: coastal oceanography, atmospheric science, climate change adaptation, environmental risk analysis, and/or stakeholder engagement and facilitation. Experience engaging with diverse communities and prior relevant work within the region are both desirable. Proficiency in Spanish is desirable, but not required.

Although employed by Penn State, **the Extension Specialist will be stationed at the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences in Gloucester, Virginia**, and will travel extensively within the Bay region as part of the stakeholder/decisionmaker outreach and engagement process. Candidates must possess a valid driver's license, ideally with use of a private vehicle, and will be expected to reside within the region. Occasional travel to Penn State's University Park campus and RAND's Washington D.C. offices, as well as to conferences, workshops, meetings, and other events in the Mid-Atlantic region will also be expected. This is a one-year, fixed-term position with excellent possibility of renewal for one or more additional years.

Applicants should upload a cover letter, a resume/CV, and contact information for at least three professional references, all in PDF format. The cover letter should explain the applicant's interest in the position, highlight relevant qualifications and experience, and explain the applicant's vision for providing outreach and support on weather- and climate-related issues for the diverse array of coastal stakeholders found in the Chesapeake Bay region. Applicants should also provide evidence, either woven through their application materials, or as a separate diversity statement, of a commitment to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusive excellence and engagement in their work environment.

Review of applications will begin immediately, and the position will remain open until filled. Questions regarding the position should be directed to Dr. Robert Nicholas ([ren10@psu.edu](mailto:ren10@psu.edu)).

This position is being announced under two separate job listings:

- Announcement #92151 (<https://psu.jobs/job/92151>) is a **postdoctoral research fellowship** and is recommended for individuals who have recently completed a Ph.D.
- Announcement #92155 (<https://psu.jobs/job/92155>) is a **non-tenure line, fixed-term faculty appointment** and is recommended for all other applicants with a Master's degree or Ph.D. Fixed term academic rank will be commensurate with education and experience.

To review the Annual Security Report which contains information about crime statistics and other safety and security matters and policies, please go to <https://police.psu.edu/annual-security-reports>, which will also explain how to request a paper copy of the Annual Security Report.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.