# Proposal Requirements

### Qualified applicants

Applicants can be affiliated with an academic institution, nonprofit organization, government entity, environmental startup, or innovative project within a company. For the Azure compute grants, we recommend that the main applicant has a demonstrated background in environmental science and/or technology, and that at least one member of the team has strong enough technical skills to complete the project successfully. Applicants should be close to or done with their data collection and ready to start with computation and model building.

Esri will also consider AI for Earth grant recipients who are affiliated with academic institutions, nonprofit organizations, and startups for a sponsored subscription to Esri ArcGIS Pro. ArcGIS Pro is a leading geospatial software for creating maps, performing spatial analysis, and managing data.

### Azure compute grants

The most important part of each Azure compute grant application is a project proposal that describes the environmental challenge addressed, the datasets used for analysis, the technical solution proposed, and its potential impact. Proposals should be written in English and not exceed three pages. While there is no specific format for proposals, a guideline is below that outlines information that is important to include:

*Title*

*Team members/collaborators*
- List one project leader first, then include all other team members afterwards
- Include names, roles, and institutional affiliations for each member

*1-2 sentence summary of your project*

*Project summary*
- What challenge are you addressing? What is your proposed solution?
- How does your project build on existing research?
- What datasets will you use for your analyses?
    - Is this data already collected?
    - Is your data labeled and ready to be used as training data?
- Approximate timeline for key project milestones

*Technical component*
- What Microsoft Azure offerings will you use? We're particularly interested in projects that use AI and machine learning. You can see what's available at Azure Cloud Services.

- We offer $5,000, $10,000, and $15,000 grants. Justify the amount your project will need (you can calculate an estimate using the [Azure calculator](#)).
- Do you have the resources and technical skills to complete the project successfully?
    - Has anyone on your team used Azure or another cloud computing service before?

*Impact*

- How does your project align with the AI for Earth areas of focus (agriculture, food, biodiversity, and/or climate change)?
- How does your project transform the way we address environmental challenges?
- How will the results of your project be leveraged and beneficial to a community of users?
    - Are you creating tools, APIs, or applications that can be used? Will they be open-source?
    - Where will your project have a direct positive impact? (Be specific about geographic locations.)

[Download the sample project proposal for reference](#)