

Notice of Intent

Institution: Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Type of NOI: Degree Granting Authority

Degree Title: Ph.D. in Geosciences

Level of Proposed Unit:

<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Year Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Master's
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> Post Master's Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> 2-4 Year Certificate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doctoral
<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor	<input type="checkbox"/> First Professional
<input type="checkbox"/> Post-Baccalaureate Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> First Professional Certificate

Region:

<input type="checkbox"/> North Suburban	<input type="checkbox"/> South Metro
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie
<input type="checkbox"/> West Suburban	<input type="checkbox"/> Southwestern
<input type="checkbox"/> Western	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Southern
<input type="checkbox"/> Central	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicago

Zip Code of Proposed Location: 62901

Requested Cip Code: 40.0699

Proposed Date for Enrollment of First Class: Fall, 2010

Description of Program Objectives:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale proposes a progressive, interdisciplinary doctoral program in Geosciences. The doctoral program in geosciences has three main learning objectives. 1) Students will develop their fundamental knowledge of the geosciences beyond the Masters degree, gaining additional theoretical and practical knowledge of the subject matter in one of the following concentrations: Biogeochemistry; Earth Surface Processes; Energy and Mineral Resources; Geophysics and Tectonics; or Paleobiology. 2) Students will conduct independent, original research; creating new knowledge that can pass rigorous peer review. 3) Students will obtain an interdisciplinary education, by completing graduate coursework from departments across campus. Students completing the program would possess the knowledge and skills to seek academic and industry positions which focus on basic and applied research.

The program would bring many benefits to Southern Illinois University Carbondale and the State of Illinois by 1) attracting promising students to a high demand field, increasing the number and quality of graduate students on campus; 2) enhancing the economy of Illinois, specifically in workforce training and the development of energy resources; 3)

increasing the research output of the faculty, including external research funding and publications in national and international journals and symposia; and 4) attracting and retaining talented faculty, those that would not consider working at the University without a doctoral program in Geosciences.

Description of Target Demographics:

The program serves students already holding a Masters Degree or equivalent coursework in a physical or biological science.

Description of Delivery Modes:

Traditional classroom, with a component of independent research presented as a dissertation.

Projected Enrollments:

Four students the first year, growing to a program with a continuing enrollment of 16 over a four year period.