

Kīlauea Scientific Advisory Committee (K-SAC) 2020 proposal guidelines

The Kīlauea Scientific Advisory Committee (K-SAC) is the formal link between the academic scientific community (organized through CONVERSE: <https://volcanoresponse.org/>) and the USGS for the Kīlauea 2020 eruption. K-SAC members evaluate proposals from academic researchers for activities related to the Kīlauea 2020 eruption that are time-sensitive and require coordination between the USGS and the academic community, either for access to eruption localities (if/when possible) and/or access to USGS personnel, resources, and samples, with the goal of maximizing the scientific returns while also working in harmony with the USGS mandate for eruption response. K-SAC makes recommendations to the Scientist In Charge at HVO, but the final decision as to whether to allocate resources, data, and/or samples is made by the SIC. No funding is available through CONVERSE or the USGS as part of this evaluation process, so proposals must be externally-funded. K-SAC will compile and share a listing of science initiatives related to the eruption openly with the broader community involved in the eruption response. During this process, suggestions will be made to minimize overlap in scientific activities between groups, identify synergies, potential collaborations, and maximize success and scientific return.

Proposals should be submitted via email to the K-SAC Chair Kari Cooper (kmcooper@ucdavis.edu). Proposals should be short (no more than 1 page in length) and will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Potential to identify critical gaps in data collection or scientific response that will advance volcanology.
2. Time-sensitivity of data/sample collection: does this project require data, samples, or analyses that must be completed in the short term?
3. Direct contribution of the results to mitigating volcanic and related hazards to life and property, augmenting ongoing HVO work related to the current activity.
4. The likelihood of success (is the project feasible with the resources in hand? Is it likely to enhance HVO activities and/or volcano science?)
5. Familiarity of the PIs with logistics and constraints of working in Hawaii.
6. Ability to be performed without interfering with ongoing emergency response.
7. Safety of personnel in performing the work.

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the committee, and PIs will be notified as quickly as possible of the outcome. To get the most up-to-date information on the current volcanic activity, real-time data, and USGS monitoring operations, visit the HVO website (hvo.wr.usgs.gov - Kīlauea updates, multimedia chronology, monitoring, maps, and more), follow USGS Volcanoes on social media, and subscribe to the USGS Volcano Notification Service (VNS, <https://volcanoes.usgs.gov/vns2/>).