

**Director**  
**Associate Professor or Professor**

The Department of Atmospheric Science is seeking an outstanding CSU tenured faculty member to serve as Director of the Colorado Climate Center. The Director will provide scientific and managerial leadership to the Climate Center and oversee its professional staff as they collect, analyze, investigate, interpret and communicate the complex and highly variable climate of Colorado – including the status, hazard and risks associated with drought, severe weather, and climate variability – to the people of Colorado and beyond.

This is a part-time position that will be coordinated with other duties and responsibilities of the incumbent. A partial buyout of teaching responsibilities will be negotiated with the candidate's home department.

**Background:**

The Colorado Climate Center was established by the state in 1974, through the Colorado State University Agricultural Experiment Station, to provide information and expertise on Colorado's complex climate. Through its threefold program of Climate Monitoring (data acquisition, analysis, and archiving), Climate Research and Climate Services, the Center is responding to many climate related questions and problems affecting the state today.

**Duties/Responsibilities/Expectations:**

The Colorado Climate Center (CCC) Director will oversee professional CCC staff members in meeting the unit's mission to research, monitor, and communicate to the public the complexities of Colorado's climate. He/She will provide leadership within the State of Colorado and nationally on issues related to the state's climate through service as the State Climatologist. The Director will select and supervise an Associate State Climatologist who will assist him/her in climate outreach efforts to stakeholder groups across the state. The Director will also be responsible for stimulating and overseeing a robust, externally funded research program involving center staff and graduate students. Specific duties are as follows:

- Manage and oversee the budgets and personnel of the Colorado Climate Center
- Provide scientific and technical leadership to the CCC. Utilizing staff input, set priorities for CCC research and climate monitoring activities.
- Mentor staff to make sure they are adequately resourced (training, operating expenses, etc) to perform their work to the best of their abilities and to grow in their professional responsibilities.
- Serve as Colorado State Climatologist. In this capacity, provide an informed, authoritative voice on climate issues within the state and act as a resource for state leaders, various stakeholder groups across the state, and the public.
- Select, supervise and mentor an Associate State Climatologist who will aid the Director particularly in providing effective climate outreach to key stakeholder groups and the public.
- Oversee and participate in climate monitoring activities, including thorough monitoring and early warning for drought. Participate in the Colorado Water Availability Task Force and serve as leader of the Intermountain West Drought Early Warning System.
- Be familiar with, use and help protect the climate data resources needed to monitor the State's climate such as Federal data sources (NOAA, USDA, USDI), State (Hydrobase – satellite monitoring system) and University (CoAgMET)
- Seek and pursue the necessary funding to assure a robust climate monitoring effort in Colorado, including resourcing the Colorado Agricultural Meteorological network. Spearhead the promotion of and better utilization of CoAgMET as a viable "Colorado Mesonet"

- Be knowledgeable of the recent and current state of weather and climate conditions, and be ready and willing to speak to the media on these topics.
- Develop and maintain functional relationships with key stakeholder groups include State and Federal agencies (e.g., Colorado Dept of Natural Resources, Colorado Dept. of Agriculture, Colorado Office of Emergency Management, NOAA National Weather Service, River Forecast Centers, the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, and CSU Extension)
- Attend and work with the Associate State Climatologist to participate in, as resources allow, key meetings of organizations whose members and activities are highly climate sensitive such as the Colorado Water Congress, River basin forums and round tables, key agricultural organizations, natural resource managers (forests, grasslands, etc)
- Participate in and contribute to state and regional integrated climate assessments (local input to the National Climate Assessment)
- Be familiar with and able to discuss: current climate anomalies as well as long-term trends, future climate projects for Colorado and how we compare to other parts of the country and globe, and the history of floods, drought and other climate extremes in Colorado. Be familiar with the strengths and limitations of seasonal and sub-seasonal climate predictions and be able to communicate this to diverse and non-technical audiences.
- Be available, with the Associate State Climatologist and as resources permit, to attend key meetings and to accept speaking invitations from diverse groups.
- Serve as an ambassador of Colorado State University and support its Land Grant University mission. Coordinating with CSU Extension, serving as a partner and resource expert to the Colorado Water Institute, and coordinating on outreach activities with the CSU Vice-President for Engagement are all important elements of this activity.
- Oversee archival of digital climatic data collected by the Colorado Climate Center (CSU weather station, CoAgMET, CoCoRaHS etc.)
- In concert with the CSU Water Archives at CSU Morgan Library, make sure the historical library holdings and original hand-written climate records of Colorado are properly handled and preserved.
- Identify research needs and pursue support – engage graduate students where possible, and provide research opportunities for undergraduates.
- Coordinate activities with the State Climate Offices of our neighboring states. Coordinate with and, where appropriate, team up with other climate services organizations in our region including the Western Water Assessment at the University of Colorado, the North Central Climate Science Center (US Dept. of Interior), the Northern Plains Climate Hub (US Dept of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service)
- Participate in and pursue the goals of the American Association of State Climatologists.
- Participate, when appropriate, with regional projects and coordinating committees of the Western Area Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
- Serve as a source of climate data and expertise in support of the research and teaching goals of Colorado State University and other institutions of higher education in Colorado

The Director must be a skilled and motivated communicator, utilizing writing, speaking, social media, and other forms of communication, as he/she will have frequent opportunities to share climate information and expertise with a wide range of audiences from scientists, academics and students to agribusiness leaders and other business practitioners, resource managers, public officials, policy makers, media and the general public. The individual in this position also must have a keen appreciation for the complexities and costly impacts of drought

and the challenges of maintaining healthy ecosystems, sustainable agriculture, healthy small communities and large cities in our semiarid and drought-prone region of the country.

**Required Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. Atmospheric Science/Climatology/Water Resources/Agricultural Meteorology. If degree is not in atmospheric science, applicant must have a strong understanding and aptitude for the essential atmospheric processes including forcings for atmospheric motions, radiation and energy balance, water balance, cloud physics, synoptic and mesoscale meteorology.
- Tenured faculty position at CSU at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor
- Minimum of 8 years of experience working with weather, climate and/or water resources data.
- Excellent communication ability to communicate challenging technical content in understandable ways to diverse audiences.
- Strong track record publishing in peer reviewed scientific journals and securing external funding for research activities in the areas of climate, weather, or other fields of atmospheric science

**Preferred Qualifications:**

Skills, knowledge and experience in the following areas:

- Climate applications in agriculture and natural resources
- Knowledge in climate trends and variability in the Rocky Mountain / Great Plains regions
- Water resources and hydrology
- Remote sensing science and applications
- Air quality
- Applied climatology and climate services
- Climate and public policy and/or Colorado Water Law
- Experience working with one or more of the following organizations (or equivalent): Regional Climate Centers, NOAA National Center for Environmental Information, State Climate Offices, Western Water Assessment, US Dept. of Interior Climate Science Centers, Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Colorado Water Institute, USGS Water Science Centers, USDA Climate Hubs, National Integrated Drought Information System, Colorado agriculture producer organizations

**Special Instructions to Applicants:**

Applicant must include his/her vision for the future of the Colorado Climate Center within his/her cover letter. Please provide a cover letter and CV along with the on-line application at <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/48145>

**Background Check:**

Colorado State University is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Background checks may include, but are not limited to, criminal history, national sex offender search, and motor vehicle history. In addition, the final candidate will be required to pass a federal Security Assurance Check because the job is in a federally occupied building.

**Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:**

Reflecting departmental and institutional values, candidates are expected to have the ability to advance the Department's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

**Application Deadline:** Applications will be accepted until the position is filled; however, to ensure full consideration applications should be submitted by 11:59 PM on **August 7, 2017**. Apply electronically by clicking "Apply to this Job" at the following website: <https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/48145>

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services.