The University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) manages the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) on behalf of the National Science Foundation and the university community. As a national center, NCAR provides world-class research, modeling, and computational capabilities that support scientific discovery and inform decisions across society. UCAR Community Programs (UCP) provides education, professional training, scientific data and services, and scientific program support. UCAR serves as a hub for community discussion and action and provides national leadership across academia, government labs and the private sector.





STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2028

GOAL ONE

Provide exemplary management of NSF NCAR and UCP.

- Maintain a modern, effective, and efficient infrastructure together with business systems and practices that enable world-class research, promote collaboration, and support community needs.
- Provide an environment that embraces innovation, community, connection, and respect.

GOAL TWO

Be an advocate, convener, and enabler of the community to advance scientific breakthroughs that solve complex Earth system science problems.

- Amplify the capabilities of UCAR Members and be a center of innovation for efforts that lie beyond the scope of any single institution.
- Facilitate partnerships among NSF NCAR, colleges and universities, and the public and private sectors.

GOAL THREE

Enable the transition of Earth system science research to operations and applications, resulting in the support of lives and property protection, economic development, and national security.

- Provide state-of-the-art scientific, computational, and data facilities that meet the needs of stakeholders across the air, water, weather, and climate enterprise.
- Extend the reach and impact of Earth system science research by leveraging investments through partnerships and collaborations.

GOAL FOUR

Be an employer of choice in Earth system science by fostering a collaborative, welcoming, and forward-thinking culture that attracts, develops, and retains top talent across the Earth system science community.

- Champion scientific excellence by being the thought-hub of the Earth system science community, offering an environment absent of fear, where creativity is celebrated and individuals can do their best work.
- Develop and implement clear, consistent, and forward-looking policies and practices that recognize individual contributions, support professional growth, and promote a high-performing organizational culture.

GOAL FIVE

Champion and extend Earth system science education and outreach.

- Deliver impactful education and training programs that cultivate the next generation of Earth system scientists and expand the talent pipeline for the broader research and applications community.
- Extend the reach and engagement of our world-class scientific research to improve public and student literacy and career pathways.

