

Number: PPD - 0003  
Subject: Research Centers  
Responsible Office: Dean & Director

Research Centers (“Centers”) are organizational areas within the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) that are established for a specific purpose such as performing research in a defined area of study or providing a specific type of advisory service. Research Centers are established by the Dean & Director and continue to exist until there is no longer a specific need for the function provided by the Center, there are insufficient funds to continue effective operation of the Center, or the Dean & Director, with the advice of the Faculty Council and other appropriate bodies, decides to dissolve the Center.

Centers are led by an individual appointed by the Dean & Director. The Center Directors must be a member of the faculty, whether tenured, tenure eligible, or non-tenure eligible. At the time a Center is established, it will be decided if the Center Director should report to the Dean & Director or to the Associate Dean for Research & Advisory Services. Center Directors are appointed for renewable 3-year terms. Approximately six months before the expiration of the initial term, the Dean & Director will appoint a committee to review the performance of the Center head and to recommend to the Dean & Director whether or not the Center head should continue in office. Should the Center head continue in office, performance reviews will be conducted at intervals of 4 years.

Existing Centers at VIMS are as follows:

- Aquaculture Breeding and Genetics Technology Center (ABC)
- Center for Coastal Resources Management (CCRM)
- Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia (CBNERR-VA)
- Eastern Shore Laboratory (ESL)
- Marine Advisory Program (MAP)

Virginia Sea Grant functions in a manner similar to a Center but is a separate entity within VIMS.

Effective Date: May 1, 2010  
Updates: Sept. 2023