



Contribution License Agreement

Version: 1.0

Last Updated: Dec 19, 2025

This Contribution License Agreement (“**Agreement**”) is entered into between The Climate Modeling Alliance (“**the CLiMA Organization**”) and the undersigned (“**the Contributor**”), collectively referred to as “**the Parties**”.

0. Preamble. Open collaboration relies on clear understandings. This Agreement ensures that the CLiMA Organization has the legal permission to incorporate, maintain, and distribute your code, while ensuring that you retain the copyright to your work. By clarifying these rights upfront, we ensure the project remains open, sustainable, and safe for the entire community to use. We model this CLA after the contributor-friendly Apache Contributor License Agreement.

1. Definitions.

- “**Contribution**” means any original work of authorship, including modifications or additions, that the Contributor Submits intentionally to the CLiMA Organization.
- “**Submit**” encompasses all actions that update or change the CLiMA Organization’s codebase through electronic communication, including, but not limited to, merging code into the default branch, creating a pull request, and committing code and documentation.

2. Grant of Copyright License. The Contributor retains all ownership rights to their Contributions. However, to ensure that the project can be distributed and maintained, the Contributor grants to the CLiMA Organization and to recipients of software distributed by the CLiMA Organization a perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive, no-cost, royalty-free, irrevocable copyright license to reproduce, prepare derivative works of, publicly display, publicly perform, sublicense, and distribute the Contributions and such derivative works.

3. Patent License. The Contributor grants the CliMA Organization a perpetual, worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free license to use any patents necessarily infringed by the Contribution.

4. Representations. The Contributor represents that:

1. All Contributions are original or appropriately licensed.
2. The Contributor has the legal authority to assign or license rights.
3. No third-party licenses or obligations restrict this Agreement.
4. The Contributor is not aware of any patents that would be infringed except those disclosed in writing to the CliMA Organization.

5. Employer Consent (If Applicable). If the Contribution is made within the scope of employment, the Contributor affirms that their employer has consented to the assignment and licensing of the Contribution. A separate corporate CLA might be necessary.

6. Future Contributions. This Agreement applies to all Contributions Submitted to the CliMA Organization from the date the Contributor agrees.

7. Termination. This Agreement can be terminated by written notice.

8. Governing Law. The laws of the State of California govern this Agreement.

9. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties. It supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, or communications, whether written or oral, between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement.

10. Notice to CliMA. The Contributor agrees to notify the CliMA Organization in writing of any facts or circumstances of which the Contributor later becomes aware that would make the Contributor's representations in this Agreement inaccurate in any respect.

The Contributor electronically indicates acceptance of this Contribution License Agreement.