

# **Oregon Sea Grant**

## **Request for Preliminary Proposals**

### **2024-2026 Biennial Research Competition**

#### ***Preliminary Proposals Due:***

***Friday, January 27, 2023, before 5:00 p.m. PST***

***Request eSeaGrant access by January 6, 2023***

***Full Proposal Invitations: The week of March 6, 2023***

***Full Proposals Due: Friday, April 28, 2023, before 5:00 p.m. PST***

***Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.***

***Office Hours Sessions (sign up required by January 13):***

***January 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, and 19, 2023***

***Individual Requests: Not to exceed \$120,000 per year***

***Anticipated Funding: Three to five projects***

***Project Duration: February 1, 2024 through January 31, 2026***

***Funding levels are set by the NOAA Sea Grant Program based on congressional appropriations and are subject to change and rescission.***

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Oregon Sea Grant College Program invites preliminary proposals from researchers who are affiliated with any Oregon institution of higher education for research projects that apply innovative socioeconomic and biophysical science to address critical marine and coastal issues. Oregon Sea Grant (OSG) supports creative and rigorously conceived marine and coastal research characterized by strong societal relevance.

Each research project must include an engagement and outreach component designed to integrate potential information-users and interested parties into the research process and ensure the research results will be useful and usable to these constituencies. During the pre-proposal phase of this competitive funding call, we will offer designated “office hours” opportunities to meet with OSG engagement, extension, and outreach professionals to help plan this component of the project. Projects will be selected through an open, competitive, peer-review process. Proposed work may begin on either February 1, 2024 or February 1, 2025. Available funding is set by the National Sea Grant College Program based on congressional appropriations.

Preliminary proposals are reviewed by external technical experts for scientific merit and innovation, by our citizen advisory council for societal relevance, and by OSG leadership for alignment with the goals, objectives, and values set forth in our strategic plan and the priorities identified in this Request for Proposals (RFP). Based on these evaluations, OSG will extend invitations to researchers to submit full proposals. Full proposals undergo independent external peer reviews as well as technical panel and citizen advisory panel reviews for scientific excellence,

societal relevance, and applicable engagement and outreach. Oregon Sea Grant leadership will also review full proposals for alignment with our strategic plan and this Request for Proposals. Please read all guidelines carefully as items in the request for preliminary proposals have changed for the 2024-2026 biennium.

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## I. Introduction

Oregon Sea Grant (OSG) directs resources to the most pressing problems of Oregon’s coastal communities, often identified by local community members. Current topics include environmental literacy and workforce development; coastal ecosystem function, biodiversity, and services; wild-caught fisheries and local aquaculture; and resilience strategies to address coastal and marine hazards, stressors, and their impacts. The results of this research are developed and shared with interested parties through various pathways, often via OSG’s integrated engagement, extension, and outreach program, which brings together the collective expertise of on-the-ground extension agents, educators, and communications specialists. Oregon Sea Grant is committed to “engaged research”, with a goal to ensure that research is developed with and/or in response to the needs of those impacted, and that vital research results are shared with people who need it most and in ways that are timely, relevant, and meaningful.

### About Us

Oregon Sea Grant is one of the nation’s four original Sea Grant Colleges; we achieved Sea Grant College status in 1971. Oregon Sea Grant supports discovery, understanding, and collaboration to foster healthy, inclusive, and resilient coastal communities and ecosystems. Careful identification of needs, reasoned risk-taking, leveraging of resources, and partnering with other organizations, businesses and individuals are among the tools that OSG uses to ensure that its activities make a positive difference in the well-being of coastal resources and communities for the state and the nation. The program is integral to the fabric of Oregon State University and to the state of Oregon. We take great pride in its many research and outreach accomplishments.

The National Sea Grant College Program champions diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility (DEIJA) by recruiting, retaining, and preparing a diverse workforce, and proactively engaging and serving the diverse populations of coastal communities. Oregon Sea Grant is committed to building equitable and inclusive research, Extension, communication, and education programs that serve people with diverse identities, lived experiences, needs, perspectives, and ways of thinking.

On-going changes and challenges continue to confront communities, managers, and living resources in the coastal and marine ecosystems of Oregon and throughout the Pacific Northwest region. Oregon Sea Grant plays an important role in addressing challenges and seizing opportunities by funding and collaboratively developing use-inspired research, engaging with communities connected to coastal and marine ecosystems, and communicating with the public.

Please go to <http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/> to learn more about OSG and our current activities.

## II. General Information about Proposal Submission

### A. Schedule of Dates for Proposal Submission and Review

Outreach and Engagement Office Hours Sessions (by appointment only):	January 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19, 2023 <b>(sign up no later than January 13, 2023)</b>
Preliminary Proposals Due:	Friday, January 27, 2023, before 5:00 p.m. PST <b>(request eSeaGrant access by January 6, 2023)</b>
Invitations for Full Proposals:	Week of March 6, 2023
Full Proposals Due:	Friday, April 28, 2023, before 5:00 p.m. PST
Peer Review Period:	May 1, 2023 – July 7, 2023
Reviews to Investigators:	July 17, 2023
Investigator Responses to Reviews Due:	July 24, 2023
<b><i>Tentative</i></b> Notice of Funding Decisions:	Friday, September 1, 2023
Successful Projects Begin:	February 1, 2024 or February 1, 2025

Note: This timeline is subject to change; any updates will be posted to our website and disseminated through email.

### B. Eligibility Information

Preliminary proposals may be submitted by faculty of any public or private institution of higher education in Oregon; the project's lead Principal Investigator (PI) must be deemed eligible by their institution to receive extramural funding. While non-academic researchers may be included among the co-principal investigators (co-PIs), awards will be made only through colleges and universities. We encourage the involvement of collaborators and researchers who are not Oregon university faculty (collaborators may include, but are not limited to: industry, state/regional/federal agencies, Tribes, NGOs, and/or other research or academic institutions). *NOTE: Only one preliminary proposal per lead Principal Investigator may be submitted.* Direct salary support for individuals from state and federal agencies, Tribal, and for-profit and foreign organizations is not allowed; however, non-federal contributions can be counted as matching or in-kind support for the project. Project participants who are employees of OSG may be part of a project team and serve as co-PIs, but they may not be project lead PIs. Project budgets for OSG

employees may include support for activities, but not salary or benefits (See below<sup>1</sup>). Oregon Sea Grant encourages submissions from researchers new to OSG and those from diverse backgrounds. We encourage applicants of all ages, races, ethnicities, national origins, gender identities, sexual orientations, disabilities, cultures, religions, citizenship type, marital statuses, education levels, job classifications, veteran status, income, and socioeconomic status to apply for this competitive research opportunity.

### **C. Project and Proposal Criteria (what we are looking for)**

An ideal OSG proposal would apply rigorous science and an innovative approach to a well-defined coastal or marine problem or opportunity that is important to Oregon, the Pacific Northwest region, and the nation. All pre-proposals must state how they support at least one of the strategic goals within OSG's four focus areas, and the research objectives and priorities identified in this RFP.

The two primary criteria for evaluating proposals are: 1) scientific excellence and 2) societal relevance, which includes relevance of the proposed work to addressing the strategic goals supporting OSG's four focus areas, and the potential for societal impact. Funded projects will meet both of these criteria. Each proposal must also include an engagement or outreach component designed to authentically involve interested parties and information users with the research, research development, or its application. Additional details on the evaluation and decision criteria can be found in section III.B., starting on page 9.

The four focus areas highlighted in our 2024–27 Strategic Plan are:

<http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/about/strategic-plan>

- Environmental literacy and workforce development
- Healthy coastal ecosystems
- Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Resilient communities and economies

For this competition, OSG specifically requests proposals that address one or more of the research objectives aligned with these four focus areas.

#### Research Objectives for 2024-26 Competitive Projects:

- Understand and assess the knowledge, perceptions, and priorities of coastal residents, visitors, and communities with ties to the coastal zone. Preference given to projects focused on:
  - the new blue economy (see definition in OSG's strategic plan)
  - marine renewable energy, including integration into larger energy systems and resilience of coastal communities
  - issues impacting underserved communities
  - integration of traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge

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<sup>1</sup> Note: Guidelines for additional support for partially-core funded OSG employees involved with project outreach and engagement activities are outlined in our internal policy. This support requires prior approval by the supervisor and Director.

- Collaborate with interested parties to co-develop knowledge about the functioning and resilience of coastal, coastal watershed, and marine ecosystems. Preference given to projects focused on:
  - improved stewardship and community science
  - priorities that reflect the interests of a diversity of coastal communities
  - effectiveness and tradeoffs of existing and new strategies for promoting resilience and health of coastal ecosystems
  - integration of traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge
- Understand the ecological status and socio-economic value of Oregon's commercially, recreationally, and culturally important coastal and marine species. Preference given to projects that address:
  - emerging fisheries, industries, or techniques
  - challenges and needs of underserved community members, including communities of interest and of place
  - sustainable aquaculture
  - natural, social, and economic ramifications of competing ocean and coastal space and use pressures
  - community benefits of local and sustainable seafood production and consumption
  - integration of traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge
- Within coastal, coastal watershed, and marine ecosystems, **understand the causes and impacts of acute and chronic hazards and stressors and develop, implement, and assess community resilience and adaptation strategies.** Hazards and stressors may include, but are not limited to acute hazards, such as earthquake or tsunami, or chronic stressors, such as changing ocean conditions or sea level rise. Preference given to projects focused on:
  - local resilience needs that use or adapt culturally responsive tools
  - identifying and reducing disproportionate impacts on vulnerable communities
  - integration of traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge

**NOTE:** As aquaculture is currently a National Sea Grant priority, Oregon Sea Grant encourages the submission of proposals that meet the criteria outlined in this RFP and have a focus on aquaculture.

In addition, successful proposals are likely to:

- show significant progress within two years
- focus on prediction and / or problem solving (rather than explanation)
- focus on outcomes and clearly show how and to whom the work would make a difference
- include meaningful collaboration with industry, agencies, communities, or other partners
- be transdisciplinary in nature; for example, combine socioeconomic and biophysical approaches, such as an integrated sociology and engineering study
- have a clearly conceived and adequately resourced engagement and outreach plan
- have substantive evidence of co-funding or co-support from interested parties and partners

- request \$120,000 per year or less, and provide convincing justification for the funds
- describe how the research may benefit interested parties and explore potential long-term impacts to society, with a focus on underrepresented or underserved populations (*Impacts are defined as the direct external results of Sea Grant's efforts*)

## **Students**

Oregon Sea Grant encourages proposals that include support (i.e., salary, benefits, tuition, travel) for graduate and undergraduate students to work on proposed research projects, and encourages recruitment of students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from economically or educationally disadvantaged backgrounds that have inhibited their ability to pursue a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). All students supported by Sea Grant are considered OSG Scholars. The OSG Scholars Program helps create a community for supported students and provides them with professional development opportunities, giving them the ability to connect research to appropriate outreach and engagement. The OSG Scholars supported on funded proposals are expected to participate in OSG activities, such as the State of the Coast conference, the biennial Scholars Day, and other events at which students will present their work to other OSG Scholars, researchers, faculty, and staff.

## **Multi-institutional Teams**

We strongly encourage multi-institutional approaches to state and regional issues. As such, proposals that mobilize the best research talent to address complex issues may involve funding from more than one Sea Grant program. Oregon Sea Grant encourages researchers involved in such projects to contact the relevant Sea Grant programs as soon as possible to discuss options.

## **Engagement and Outreach: Guidance and Office Hours**

In addition to supporting research projects that are scientifically excellent and societally relevant, OSG is committed to projects that engage and inform relevant communities. The results of this research are developed and shared with interested parties through various pathways, often via OSG's integrated engagement, extension, and outreach program, which brings together the collective expertise of on-the ground extension agents, educators, and communications specialists. The goal is to ensure that vital research results are informed by and shared with those who need it most and in ways that are timely, relevant, and meaningful.

To assist potential researchers in developing strong engagement and outreach for their projects, OSG offers engagement and outreach guidelines (available [here](#)), and will offer a series of office hours to address the question: *how is the proposed research useable and accessible?* Prior to preproposal submission, potential PIs can meet individually with 2-3 members of OSG's integrated engagement, extension, and outreach program. During these short, personalized sessions, the team will consider a researcher's proposed project and offer best practices for designing a strong engagement and outreach plan using OSG or other resources. Anticipated outcomes from these meetings include a framework for developing, implementing, and assessing the outreach and engagement strategy, along with guidelines for working with potential partners to assist in developing engagement and outreach strategies as needed. These meetings are by appointment only and will be held January 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19, 2023. Meeting with OSG engagement and outreach personnel is recommended but not required and does not guarantee project support. The lead PI is responsible for all components of the proposal and funded project.

To schedule a session, send an email to: [seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu](mailto:seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu) **no later than January 13, 2023** with “Office Hour Session Request” in the subject line. Plan to submit a brief, one page or less, summary of proposed work before the session. If none of the available dates work for you and your team, please contact us for accommodation.

#### **D. Duration of Grant**

The expected duration of the grant is 12–24 months. Proposed work should begin February 1, 2024 or February 1, 2025, and be completed by January 31, 2026. Requests for support exceeding two years will not be considered. Proposals to continue work beyond the initial one or two years should be entered into a future competition.

#### **E. Funding**

Although proposals requesting larger amounts will be accepted, proposals that request \$120,000 or less per year will have a competitive advantage since we want to fund as many efforts as possible, all else being equal. Not all excellent proposals can be funded.

Grant funding comes from our NOAA appropriation and totals about \$1.6 million over two years, assuming no changes in the federal Sea Grant appropriation. Funding levels are subject to change and rescission based on Congressional actions.

#### **F. Cost-Share Requirement**

Federal law requires that OSG provide a non-federal cost share of at least 50% of federal funds received. Matching funds may come from a variety of state, local, international, or private funds or in-kind services. Research projects that do not provide at least 50% non-federal match may not qualify for funding. Researchers should take cost share into consideration as they develop budgets and projects, and contact OSG in advance to discuss any anticipated shortfall in matching funds.

#### **G. NOAA Data Sharing Requirement**

Environmental data and information collected and / or created under NOAA grants and cooperative agreements must be made visible, accessible, and independently understandable to general users, free of charge or at minimal cost, in a timely manner (typically no later than two years after the data are collected or created), except where limited by law, regulation, policy or by security requirements. The requirement has two basic parts: (1) environmental data generated by a grant project must be made available after a reasonable period of exclusive use, and (2) the grant application must describe the plan to make the data available (PIs are expected to execute the plan).

To meet this requirement, the PI must comply with the process described in eSeaGrant during submission of the full proposal, and explain how the data and metadata will be provided. Funds may be budgeted in the project proposal for this task. For detailed guidance, please refer to NOAA’s Data Sharing Directive for Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts at the following permanent URL (Appendix B outlines requirements):

[https://nosc.noaa.gov/EDMC/documents/Data\\_Sharing\\_Directive\\_v3.0.pdf](https://nosc.noaa.gov/EDMC/documents/Data_Sharing_Directive_v3.0.pdf).

### **III. Proposal Development and Evaluation Process**

#### **A. Preliminary Proposal and Full Proposal Development**

The development and review of Sea Grant proposals is a multi-step process:



## **PREPROPOSALS**

1. Oregon Sea Grant releases the 2024-2026 Biennial Research RFP and makes times available for researchers to meet with outreach and engagement experts. To schedule a session, send an email to: [seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu](mailto:seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu) **no later than January 13, 2023** with “Office Hour Session Request” in the subject line. Office Hours sessions will be held January 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19, 2023.
2. The pre-proposal is submitted to OSG via [eSeaGrant](#) **before 5:00 p.m. PST on Friday, January 27, 2023**. Pre-proposals should follow the narrative guidance provided below in section IV. on pages 11-12 and in eSeaGrant. No full proposals will be accepted without a pre-proposal. No incomplete or late submissions will be accepted. **NOTE:** All potential lead PIs will need to be added to the 2024–2026 Biennial Research competition in eSeaGrant, even if you already have an existing eSeaGrant account. Potential PIs should send an email to [eSeaGrant@oregonstate.edu](mailto:eSeaGrant@oregonstate.edu) to request access to this opportunity by Friday, January 6, 2023.
3. Pre-proposals will be reviewed by peer reviewers (out-of-state U.S. and international experts in the proposed area of research) to look for fatal technical flaws, screen for originality, and pinpoint innovative ideas; the OSG Advisory Council assesses societal relevance; and OSG leadership determines if preproposals address links to at least one of the strategic goals within the four focus areas, and the research objectives and priorities identified in this RFP in a balanced way. Specific review criteria are included below.
4. Invitations for full proposals will be sent no later than the week of March 6, 2023. Reviewer comments on the pre-proposal and additional instructions will be available via eSeaGrant.

## **FULL PROPOSALS**

1. Full proposals are to be submitted through [eSeaGrant](#) to OSG **before 5:00 p.m. PST, Friday, April 28, 2023**. Full proposals may be submitted by invitation only, following the narrative guidance provided. No full proposals will be accepted without a pre-proposal. No incomplete or late proposals will be accepted. Contact OSG with any questions.
5. Full proposals are rigorously reviewed by at least three out-of-state or international peer reviewers with expertise in the proposed area of research. Peer reviewers follow the evaluation criteria provided below. Applicants who have not already done so at the pre-proposal stage, or those who wish to suggest additional reviewers, are required to provide **at least three potential reviewers from outside of Oregon**. We ask that you avoid reviewers who have any [conflicts of interest](#) with your proposal team. This information can be provided using eSeaGrant.
2. Principal Investigators will have one week in July to respond to reviewer comments via eSeaGrant (currently scheduled for July 17 – 24, 2023, but subject to change). Please plan accordingly as these dates will not be shifted to accommodate individual requests.
3. A review panel comprised of out-of-state experienced generalists, the OSG Advisory Council, a program officer from the National Sea Grant Office (*ex officio*), and OSG program leads will convene to evaluate the proposals, taking into consideration peer reviews and PI responses. The experienced generalists consider external reviews, PI responses, and the overall effectiveness of the proposed project, which includes scientific approach, engagement and outreach integration into the research, and societal relevance.



The Advisory Council also weighs in on societal relevance. The OSG director and program leads assess alignment with at least one of the strategic goals within OSG's four focus areas, and the research objectives and priorities identified in this RFP.

4. The OSG director will consider these evaluations and select a portfolio of proposals to recommend for funding to the National Sea Grant Office. Final project recommendations also take into account programmatic considerations, such as the overall balance of projects and disciplines in our research portfolio, and the diversity of institutions and investigators supported by OSG.
5. Final decisions for OSG-funded proposals are approved by the program officer from the National Sea Grant Office. Recommended proposals are expected to complete the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Abbreviated Environmental Compliance Questionnaire and submit assurance of all required permits or permit applications prior to undergoing NEPA review.
6. Applicants will be informed of final decisions by early September 2023. Oregon Sea Grant reserves the right to negotiate and / or adjust the final grant amount and work plan prior to award, as appropriate and consistent with university policy and funds available.

## **B. Evaluation and Decision Criteria**

We will fund the best science that is relevant to Oregon stakeholders. Research to gain knowledge solely for its own sake is considered inappropriate for OSG support. Pre-proposals and full proposals are rigorously reviewed by groups including peer reviewers from outside of Oregon, a panel of experienced generalists, the OSG Citizen Advisory Council, and OSG leadership. Oregon Sea Grant is committed to equitable review of proposals, and may engage in double-blinded peer review for full proposals, where the identity of the research team is withheld from a subset of reviewers, who assess the project based solely on scientific and societal merits. As such, we will provide guidance to PIs on preparing full proposals that are easily blinded by Oregon Sea Grant after submission (i.e. to facilitate removal of identifying information). This guidance will be provided in eSeaGrant. Final funding recommendations are at the discretion of the OSG director.

The outcome of the pre-proposal stage is a letter from Oregon Sea Grant communicating our decision to either encourage or discourage submission of a full proposal. This determination is based on the evaluation considerations included below and the likelihood of a full proposal on the anticipated topic being competitive for funding. Additional input and guidance regarding your pre-proposal will be provided in writing no later than the week of **March 6, 2023**.

Your pre-proposal narrative should address the following points:

**Issue Identification:** State the research problem and explain how results will benefit society. Include study objectives and rationale. Why is this topic and approach relevant to the Oregon Coast? Who are the interested parties / potential end-users?

**Alignment:** Address how the work relates to the mission, values, and priorities identified by the 2024–2027 OSG [Strategic Plan](#), including links to at least one of the strategic goals within the four focus areas, and the research objectives and priorities identified in this RFP.

**Proposed Research Summary:** Briefly introduce the methodology to enable someone familiar with your field to assess the feasibility and innovation of your proposed work.

**Engagement and Outreach:** Researchers are strongly encouraged to engage with prospective end-users and audiences as they develop their proposal to assess and ensure

societal relevance. Explain how the research will be co-developed, extended to, and/or used by those who can apply it or contribute to it.

So What?: Is the proposed research needed? What could happen if this proposal was funded? What are the expected outcomes and potential impacts to society and to the research field? What are the risks of not advancing the work proposed?

Considerations in pre-proposal evaluations include:

1. Technical / Scientific Merit: The degree to which the activity will advance the state of the science or discipline through use and extension of creative and innovative methods, while learning from previous findings. Innovativeness is defined as applying new approaches to solving problems and exploiting opportunities in resource management or development, or in public engagement and outreach on such issues; alternatively, it can be the degree to which the activity will focus on new types of important or potentially important resources and issues. **Pre-proposal Focus:** External generalists screen for important technical flaws, originality, and innovative ideas, and provide feedback to PIs.
2. Engagement, Outreach, and User Relationship: Investigators must present a clear rationale for the proposed project, expected outcomes from the research, and beneficiaries of the proposed work. Pre-proposals are expected to briefly describe engagement and outreach goals and how they will be achieved. Describe how the project will engage interested parties (e.g., local coastal communities, public and private sectors, Tribes) along the way. **Pre-proposal Focus:** Based on the engagement and outreach criteria outlined [here](#), OSG leadership assesses whether planned activities are appropriate for the project, meet audience needs, involve two-way communication and learning, and answer the question: how is the planned research useable and accessible?
3. Qualifications and Past Record of Investigators: Investigators demonstrate the degree to which they are qualified by education, training, and/or experience to execute the proposed activity including data management, and engagement and outreach activities. Note that the record of achievement with previous Oregon Sea Grant funding will also be considered. **Pre-proposal Focus:** Using information publicly available to members of the scientific community, as well as that provided within the pre-proposal itself (including CVs, Current and Pending support, etc.), external generalists evaluate the feasibility of the proposal team successfully executing stated objectives. The Oregon Sea Grant leadership team weighs in with respect to any previous OSG funding, outcomes, and impact.
4. Budget: A good-faith budget estimate is provided that anticipates expenses and is sufficient for all aspects of the project – including engagement and outreach. The eventual work is expected to leverage other resources and provide adequate cost share. **Pre-proposal Focus:** External generalists and OSG leadership assess the anticipated costs for proposed activities as adequate or insufficient.
5. Societal Relevance and Rationale: The clarity with which the proposed activity addresses an important issue, problem, or opportunity in development, use, or management of marine or coastal resources. Some questions to consider: Does the proposed work appear to lead to useful solutions to recognized or emerging problems? Is the proposed work likely to make a positive difference to society? Does the proposed work seem likely to influence or be used by resource/coastal/ocean management by businesses and agencies? Does the proposed work appear to be applicable beyond a specific local community, can

it be generally useful? Can it raise public awareness and understanding about the problem/solutions addressed? Does it align with at least one of the strategic goals within OSG focus areas, and the research objectives and priorities identified in this RFP? **Pre-proposal Focus:** Using this [rubric](#), the OSG Advisory Council assesses the question: is the proposed research needed? OSG leadership addresses the question: does the work align with at least one of the strategic goals within OSG focus areas, and the research objectives and priorities identified in this RFP?

#### **IV. Preliminary Proposal Narrative Guidelines**

For complete consideration for the Oregon Sea Grant 2024–2026 Biennial Research Competition, you must submit a preliminary proposal (pre-proposal) narrative, a short two-page vitae of all senior personnel (PIs and co-PIs) and their current and pending support, and a budget estimate. Guidance for writing the pre-proposal follows.

We will use eSeaGrant, a web-based tool for submitting, reviewing, updating, and tracking grant proposals, for this call. To register for the eSeaGrant system, the lead PI must email a request to [eseagrant@oregonstate.edu](mailto:eseagrant@oregonstate.edu) by Friday, January 6, 2023. Instructions are provided only to registered users, and submission of all pre-proposal related materials are due via eSeaGrant before **5:00 p.m. PST on Friday, January 27, 2023**. If you cannot submit using the eSeaGrant system, please contact the OSG program for accommodation. NOTE: All potential lead PIs will need to be added to the 2024–2026 Biennial Research competition in eSeaGrant, even if you already have an existing eSeaGrant account.

Information required for the pre-proposal in eSeaGrant includes:

1. Anticipated Title of Proposed Project.
2. Expected Project Duration.
3. Total Budget Request Estimate: all years combined, non-binding, in good-faith.
4. Lead Principal Investigator (note that only one preproposal may be submitted per lead PI): Name, Title, Institutional Affiliation, Contact Information, two-page Curriculum Vitae or Biosketch, and Current and Pending support (NOTE: CV and C&P formats are at your discretion; we can provide templates, if needed. These will be uploaded as PDFs in eSeaGrant).
5. Known and Anticipated Co-Investigator(s): Name, Title, Institutional Affiliation, Contact Information, two-page Curriculum Vitae or Biosketch, and Current and Pending support (NOTE: CV and C&P formats are at your discretion; we can provide templates, if needed. These will be uploaded as PDFs in eSeaGrant).
6. Suggestions for Potential Peer Reviewers (must be from outside of Oregon), including: Names, Titles, Institutional Affiliation, and potential Conflicts of Interest (COI) (description of COI available on eSeaGrant and [here](#)).
7. Keywords.
8. Preliminary Proposal Narrative: Preliminary proposal narratives cannot exceed five single-spaced pages with one-inch margins, using a 12-pt font, including references and figures.

An optional question to collect demographics information using the demographics question approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will also be provided. Oregon Sea Grant will not provide collected demographics information to reviewers for any purpose,

including evaluation, and will not consider demographics information during selection. Demographics data will be aggregated and used by Sea Grant programs to assess diversity of applicants and the reach of our programming over time.

NOTE: Preliminary Proposals (including the budget estimate) do not need to demonstrate departmental approval, nor do they need to be certified by project personnel.

If you have technical problems with completion and submission of your pre-proposal, please contact Stephanie Ichien, OSG Research and Scholars Program Coordinator, at (541) 737-0661 or [Stephanie.Ichien@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Stephanie.Ichien@oregonstate.edu). Upon submission of the pre-proposal, you should receive an automated email from the eSeaGrant system. If you do not receive an email reply within 24 hours, please contact us via telephone ASAP.

## V. Full Proposal Narrative Guidelines

Additional details on developing and submitting the full proposal will be shared with PIs following pre-proposal decisions.

## VI. Contacts

Researchers preparing preliminary proposals for possible OSG funding should contact the program with their questions.

- For questions about proposal topics or the overall funding policy, contact OSG Director [Karina Nielsen](#) (541-737-6200).
- For questions on the application, review and approval process, the OSG Scholars program or technical questions regarding eSeaGrant, contact OSG Associate Director for Research and Scholars [Sarah Kolesar](#) (541-737-8695) or OSG Research and Scholars Program Coordinator [Stephanie Ichien](#) (541-737-0661).
- To schedule an office hour session, send an email to: [seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu](mailto:seagrant.admin@oregonstate.edu) **no later than January 13, 2023** with “Office Hours Session Request” in the subject line.
- For additional questions on OSG public engagement programs, projects and faculty, contact OSG Interim Associate Director for Extension and Engagement [Jamie Doyle](#) (541-297-4227).