

# Oregon Sea Grant

## Program Development Proposals

***Proposals reviewed quarterly, due: December 31, March 31, June 30, and September 30, before 5:00 p.m. PST***

Individual requests for rapid response or event support outside of planned review periods may also be considered.

**Individual Requests typically do not exceed \$10,000.**

Larger requests are occasionally considered and are subject to peer review and approval by the National Sea Grant Office.

**Project Duration: One year or less**

### **Purpose**

In addition to competitive grants awarded on a two-year cycle, Oregon Sea Grant offers modest grants for project opportunities or special circumstances, when resources are available. These projects typically arise between the regular application periods and must align with the Oregon Sea Grant [strategic plan](#). These funds generally are not intended to supplement an existing project, but to provide seed money for exploratory or high-risk/impact\* efforts, or to respond to urgent needs or unforeseen opportunities that require a timely effort. Oregon Sea Grant also considers requests for event support.

*\*Highly innovative research with potential for broad impact.*

### **Timing**

Program development proposals will be considered on a quarterly basis. Reviews are planned for January, April, July, and October. Requests should be submitted no later than December 31, March 31, June 30, or September 30. Decisions are typically communicated within 6-8 weeks of the relevant quarterly deadline. Individual requests for rapid response or event support outside of planned review periods may also be considered. Please contact the Oregon Sea Grant Director for details.

### **Funding**

Program Development grants are modest in size (total awards typically do not exceed \$10,000) and should be one year or less in duration. Larger requests are occasionally considered and are subject to peer review and approval by the National Sea Grant Office. Given our limited funding, success of requests in excess of \$10,000 (total award) will be lower. While cost share is not required for program development proposals, opportunities for leveraged funds are welcome. Please contact us to discuss possible cost share for your project.

## Process

Contact the Oregon Sea Grant Director to discuss your proposed project ideas before submitting a Program Development proposal. We strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with Oregon Sea Grant's current research projects and strategic investments, as well as our strategic plan, to inform the development of your proposal concept. These are available on our [website](#). Once you have discussed the proposed project with the OSG Director, email [eseagrant@oregonstate.edu](mailto:eseagrant@oregonstate.edu) at least a week prior to proposal submission to register for eSeaGrant (this step is required even if you already have an eSeaGrant account).

We use eSeaGrant, a web-based tool for submitting, reviewing, updating, and tracking program development proposals and projects. If you cannot submit using the eSeaGrant system, please contact the Oregon Sea Grant program for accommodation.

- Submit your proposal through eSeaGrant by the quarterly review deadline.
- Decisions will be communicated within six to eight weeks of the relevant quarterly deadline.
- Projects recommended for funding 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.

## Eligibility

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 be with industry, state/regional/federal agencies, Tribes, NGOs, and/or other research or academic institutions).

- 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 Sea Grant may be part of a project team or serve as the lead Principal Investigator.
- Project budgets for Sea Grant employees should follow Oregon Sea Grant's internal policy on additional support for partially-core funded employees (See below<sup>1</sup>).
- Oregon Sea Grant encourages submissions from researchers new to Sea Grant and from a diversity of disciplines and experiences. We encourage and welcome applicants of all ages, races, ethnicities, national origins, gender identities, sexual orientations,

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<sup>1</sup> Note: Guidelines for additional support for partially-core funded Oregon Sea Grant employees involved with project engagement and outreach activities are outlined in our [internal policy](#) and their involvement requires prior approval by the supervisor and Director.

disabilities, cultures, religions, citizenship types, marital statuses, education levels, job classifications, veteran status, income, and socioeconomic status to apply for this opportunity.

- If we need additional details, we will contact you.

Student-led projects are also accepted. While funding for all awards will be made to a designated faculty member (typically the major advisor), graduate students are encouraged to lead the development and submission of proposals for discrete projects aligned with OSG's strategic plan.

### **Information required for the proposal in eSeaGrant includes the following:**

1. *Program Development Proposal Narrative* following the format outlined below. This will be uploaded as an attachment in eSeaGrant (PDF file). We need clear but brief answers to the questions posed in the outline, which correspond to the review criteria listed below. This guidance is also provided in eSeaGrant.
2. *Budget and Budget Justification* following the format provided in eSeaGrant. Instructions are provided in the eSeaGrant system.
3. *Data Management Plan* following the template provided in eSeaGrant, this document will be uploaded as an attachment in eSeaGrant (PDF file).
4. *Potential Peer Reviewers (if required)*. Suggest at least two potential peer reviewers (more for higher funding requests), avoiding potential conflicts of interest. Our Conflict of Interest Policy is available in eSeaGrant.

### **General proposal guidelines**

Your proposal, based on the outline below, should be two to five pages (12-point type, single-spaced, not including figures and references). Your budget may be a separate attachment and can be completed using the OSG budget form in eSeaGrant. Please provide clear but brief answers to the questions posed in the outline and explicitly address the review criteria, listed below.

### **Review Criteria:**

#### **Required:**

1. The project should be exploratory or high-risk efforts and/or the project should be responsive to urgent needs or unforeseen opportunities that require a timely effort.
2. All Program Development proposals must align with [Oregon Sea Grant's vision, mission, and Strategic Plan](#).
3. Projects should have clearly described outcomes linked to evaluation.
4. Projects should be societally relevant.
5. Projects should address any proposed research questions in a scientifically sound manner.

#### **Preferred:**

6. There is a preference for projects that meet the following criteria:
  - a. Project supports investigators who are new to Oregon Sea Grant funding.

- b. Project catalyzes multidisciplinary or regional efforts.

## **General Proposal Outline**

1. *Proposal Narrative Format*: two to five pages not including references and figures (12-point type, single-spaced) [All review criteria listed above should be addressed in your narrative].

A. Title/contact information

List a descriptive title, followed by name of Principal Investigator (PI), institutional affiliation, and contact information (please be sure to include your e-mail address).

B. What problem or opportunity is to be addressed?

A clear and precise statement establishing the significance, relevance, timeliness, generalizability, and benefits of the project is essential. Indicate the current status of knowledge concerning the problem or opportunity to be addressed, including a summary of previous applicable work with relevant references and alignment with the OSG vision, mission, and Strategic Plan. [Criteria 1, 2, and 3]

C. List Objectives.

Provide your specific objectives in a numbered list format. You should ask yourself whether these objectives, as stated, will result in outcomes that will allow you and Oregon Sea Grant to discern that this project has been successful, and not just completed. [Criteria 3]

D. Describe how you will approach this problem or opportunity.

Concisely present information on the approach to be used and the general methodology that will be employed. Also, how will interested parties be involved in developing the proposal and carrying out the project? [Criteria 4 and 5]

E. Discuss who will use the findings of the proposed project and who will be affected by or benefit from the findings of this project.

What would be the best way to communicate or demonstrate the project results? Also list any anticipated partners or co-sponsors for this work. [Criteria 4 and 6 if applicable]

F. Answer the perennial question: "So what?" What will happen as a result of this project?

Describe the kinds of potential outcomes or impacts that might be seen and measured. How soon after project completion might these impacts occur? Will the anticipated benefits of the project have practical applications? Will they lead to new understanding, attitudinal or behavioral changes, economic or legal improvements, etc.? [Criteria 1]

G. Personnel

Who will be involved in the project? List names and institutional affiliations, and briefly explain specific roles and qualifications (you may submit a two-page biographical sketch, CV, or resume for project personnel, but this is not required). List all formal project partners. Letters of support may also be included. Please also state whether anyone on the project has previously received or is currently receiving Oregon Sea Grant funding. [Criteria 6 if applicable]

H. How reviews were addressed (If relevant)

If your proposal was not recommended for funding, but you have been invited to revise and re-submit for a future review, please include a section that documents how reviews were addressed. This section should fit within your allotted 5 pages.

2. *Budget Format* [use the form provided in eSeaGrant]

Please use the budget form to show how much, to the nearest dollar, is requested. For quickest review, total expenses not to exceed \$10,000.

*Budget Justification Format* [Budget justification template provided in eSeaGrant]

In a narrative budget justification, explain the following for each item in your budget: How will the requested funds be used? What non-Sea Grant funds, if any, will be used to complete the project? Please itemize any cost-share (if provided). Why are the requested Sea Grant funds and non-Sea Grant funds needed to complete the project? Please detail the need for any supplies and services, travel, subcontracts, tuition, or any other items (note: single items over \$5,000 and international travel may require special approval).

3. *NOAA Data Sharing Requirement Format* [Data Sharing template provided on eSeaGrant, not to exceed 2 pages, 12-point font, one-inch margins and provide the information requested below (and in the template)]

NOAA Data Sharing Directive: 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 (Principal Investigators are expected to execute the plan).

To meet this requirement, the Principal Investigator must 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).

The Data Management Plan is not to exceed two single-spaced pages with one-inch margins, using a 12-pt font, and provide the information requested in the template.

4. *Potential Peer Reviewers*

If you are requesting more than \$10,000 (total award), suggest at least two potential peer reviewers, and if you are requesting more than \$40,000 (total award), suggest at least three potential peer reviewers. Information to be provided: Names, Titles,

Institutional Affiliation, and potential Conflicts of Interest. Suggested reviewers may be from within the state, and we ask that you avoid or disclose any potential conflicts of interest. Our Conflict of Interest Policy is available on our [Proposal Templates and Documents](#) page.

### **How proposals are reviewed**

Proposals that request \$10K or less will be reviewed by OSG Leadership.

Proposals that request more than \$10K will be sent out for external peer-review in addition to being reviewed by OSG leadership.

All proposals are reviewed against the review criteria listed above and reiterated below.

#### **Required:**

1. The project should be exploratory or high-risk efforts and/or the project should be responsive to urgent needs or unforeseen opportunities that require a timely effort.
2. All Program Development proposals must align with [Oregon Sea Grant's vision, mission, and Strategic Plan](#).
3. Projects should have clearly described outcomes linked to evaluation.
4. Projects should be societally relevant.
5. Projects should address any proposed research questions in a scientifically sound manner.

#### **Preferred:**

6. There is a preference for projects that meet the following criteria:
  - a. Project supports investigators who are new to Oregon Grant funding.
  - b. Project catalyzes multidisciplinary or regional efforts.

Once a decision is made, PIs will receive review results and input from reviewers. Any follow-up response required by OSG may be submitted via email. If your proposal is not recommended for funding and you are invited to re-submit for a future review, please create a new entry in eSeaGrant and include a section that documents how reviews were addressed.

### **Contact**

If you have questions about the proposal submission or review process, or technical questions regarding eSeaGrant, please contact Research and Scholars Coordinator, [Stephanie Ichien](#).

This document will be reviewed annually.