

## **Marine Finfish Aquaculture: Juvenile Production Technologies Webinar Q&A**

Q - At what stage in the application process do you need to apply for a waiver if you cannot meet the co-funded match requirement of 50%? What if you have no available co-fund sources?

A-That waiver is only available to individuals who have an exemption that's described under U.S. Law, it has to be an exemption given by statute. Unless you are one of those eligible individuals or categories, the match requirement stands. We recognize that those match funds can present a barrier of entry for people trying to apply to these competitions. We encourage you to reach out to the National Sea Grant Office ([oar.hq.sg.aquaculture@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.hq.sg.aquaculture@noaa.gov)) and especially to the Sea Grant program that you're hoping to work with for advice on meeting the match requirement.

Q-Do both the notices to submit and the full proposal need to be submitted through our state Sea Grant program?

A-The notices to submit need to be submitted via email to the state Sea Grant programs and to the National Sea Grant Office ([oar.hq.sg.aquaculture@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.hq.sg.aquaculture@noaa.gov)) at the same time. However, state programs are not obligated to work with everybody who reaches out to them and wants to apply. The programs can make their own decisions on who they want to work with. They can work with more than one individual, but they don't have to work with everyone who inquires. The full proposals must be submitted through Grants Online by the state Sea Grant programs. The National Sea Grant Office cannot accept full proposal submissions by email by the published deadline.

Q-Is the notice to submit a requirement for investigators who want to submit a full proposal?

A-Yes, notices to submit are required as part of this competition. Note that notices to submit are submitted to the Sea Grant program and to the National Sea Grant Office-the reason for that is that the state programs need to know who wants to apply to this competition so they can decide who they're going to work with.

Q-Is it necessary for investigators to submit full proposals through their state Sea Grant programs?

A-Yes. The proposals with the best chance of success in the competition are ones that a Sea Grant program has engaged with in terms of reviewing and participating in the development of proposals. The state Sea Grant program is actually the entity that must do the submission in Grants Online.

Q-I thought you said the notice to submit had to come from the State Sea Grant program, but that the full proposal was submitted directly by the lead institution. Am I wrong about that?

A-The notice to submit must come from either the person who's interested in submitting or the state Sea Grant program -they can both submit notices to submit to the National Sea Grant Office, and those can come by email. The full proposal must go through grants.gov, and those can only be submitted by the partner Sea Grant programs.

Q-So then when the funds are awarded, they will be awarded to the state Sea Grant program and then they will sub it to the investigators?

A-Yes, that's correct.

Q-I was confused about the partnership thing. I was talking to someone who was in aquaculture and asked if he'd be interested in being my partner for the submission. So now I'm understanding that the partnership is actually someone or some agency, or through Sea Grant. Are the Sea Grant programs aware of people who might be looking for partnerships?

A-We encourage folks to contact the Sea Grant program that they propose working with and, if interested, include partners outside of Sea Grant as well. Proposals can include multiple partners. However, the proposals have to be submitted through a Sea Grant program. So we encourage folks to reach out to the Sea Grant program that they're proposing to work with and start a dialogue for submission.

Q-Do you have a listing of Sea Grant programs?

A-<https://seagrant.noaa.gov/About>

Q-If you have partners from other states, you're going to submit through a single, lead Sea Grant program, correct? You don't submit separately to each individual state program.

A-That's correct.

Q-Are species listed in the NOFO prioritized?

A-No.

Q-Can Sea Grant assist with developing broodstock?

A-No, we cannot directly assist - your best strategy is to reach out to stakeholders.