

2023 National Sea Grant College Program
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Informational Webinar
Hosted by: Alison Krepp, Gina Eosco, Alexandra Neal
March 8, 2023 3-4pm

Q1: Likelihood of funding past initial 3 years?

A: This funding comes from the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) and therefore has a definitive timeline. We're excited to have the opportunity to pilot this partnership bringing Sea Grant and social science together with our weather forecasting capabilities. While there is a hope we would continue this in the future, this is not something we can say at this time as a result of the funding source.

Q2: Where will the social science be generated? Are the liaisons conducting research?

A: The liaisons will conduct applied social science research that will inform, improve, integrate, and evaluate FIMS capabilities with end-user needs and support community-level application and implementation.

Q3: Only a small portion of Florida is included, would a person from Florida interested in applying be restricted to working in that area?

A: The core of that work needs to support FIMS capabilities, but the transferability of that work could be applied more broadly.

Q4: NWS offices cross state lines, would the liaisons' geographic area be restricted by state lines?

A: No, there is not a geographic restriction to the liaisons' activities regarding state line. The language describing the Outreach and engagement plan on pg 4 of the announcement also states, "Provide a cohesive strategy, including travel budget support, to ensure that users and interested parties across the greater geographic region, beyond those who actively participate in the proposed work, will engage with and learn about the project's methods, outcomes, and potential for transferability."

Q5: How much will the liaison be required to use FIMS tools versus state and other tools?

A: FIMS is the anchor point for any research or engagement. Since we are interested in understanding how FIMS may change stakeholder's decision environments, it is important to also note how FIMS will complement other information and tools. From this perspective, other tools and sources of information may be included, but not as the primary area of focus.

Q6: When you say work within the region, do you mean NOAA regions, NWS, or some other defined regions?

A: No, not necessarily - while the FIMS rollout provides a geographic reference point, the proposals can determine the geography most relevant to community needs.

Q7: Did Gina have any input about more than 3 years of funding?

A: See the answer to Q1 above.

Q8: Will our university IRB be sufficient?

A: Largely, yes university IRB approval will be sufficient. If for example, the project calls for a NOAA Weather Forecast Office (federal entity) to do the work of disseminating or sending out an instrument like a survey, then we would need to have OMB/PRA approval because the federal entity is doing the asking. In cases where the university partner is doing the disseminating/sending of these instruments, University IRB will be sufficient.

Q9: will you send out the Q&A?

A: Yes, slides and Q&A will be available!