FY 2024 National Aquaculture Initiative: Enhancing Production of Coastal, Marine, and Great Lakes Aquaculture Species

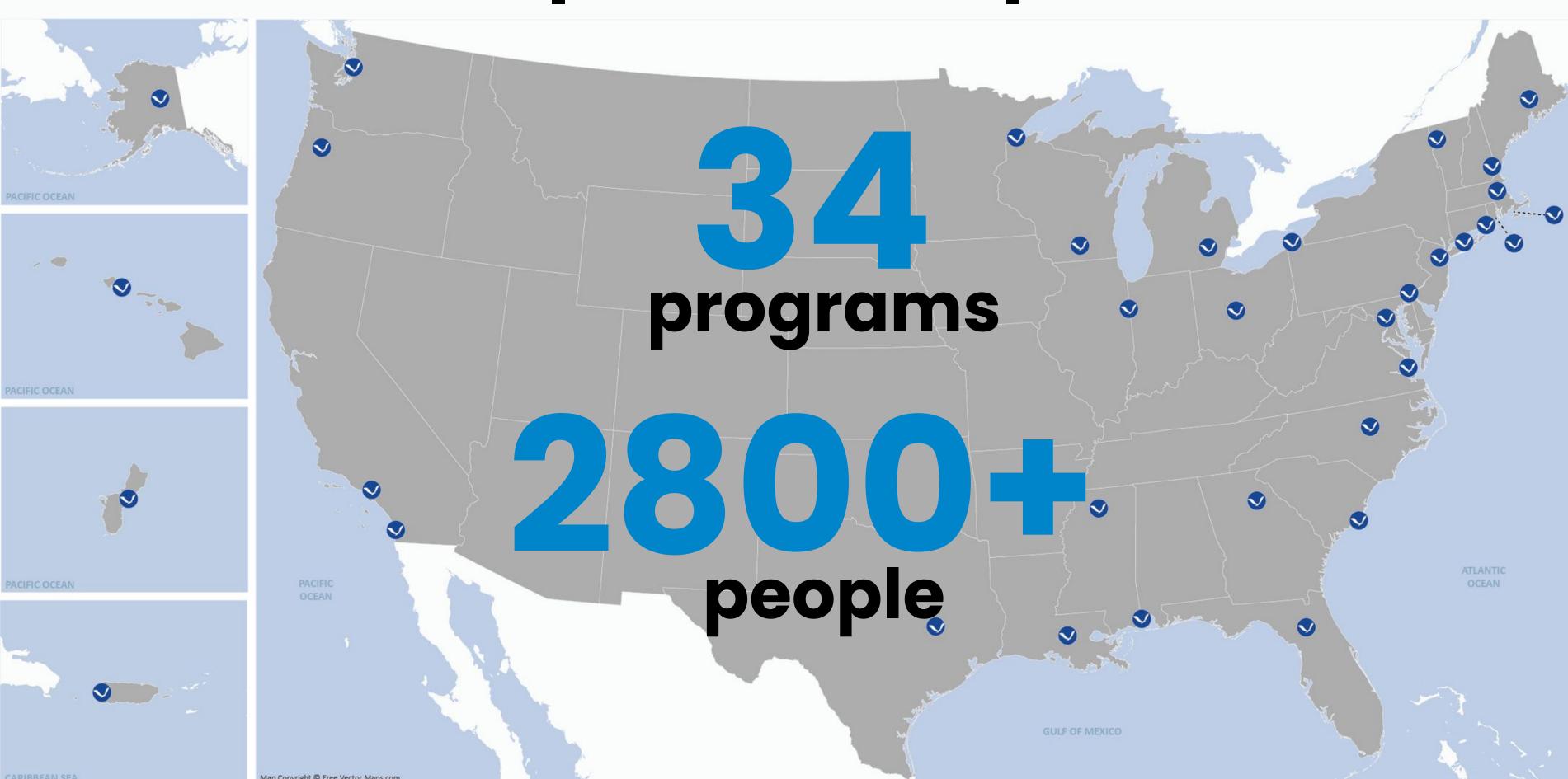




National Sea Grant College Program

The National Sea Grant College program was established by the U.S. Congress in 1966 and works to create and maintain a healthy coastal environment and economy. Sea Grant's mission is to enhance the practical use and conservation of coastal, marine and Great Lakes resources in order to create a sustainable economy and environment.

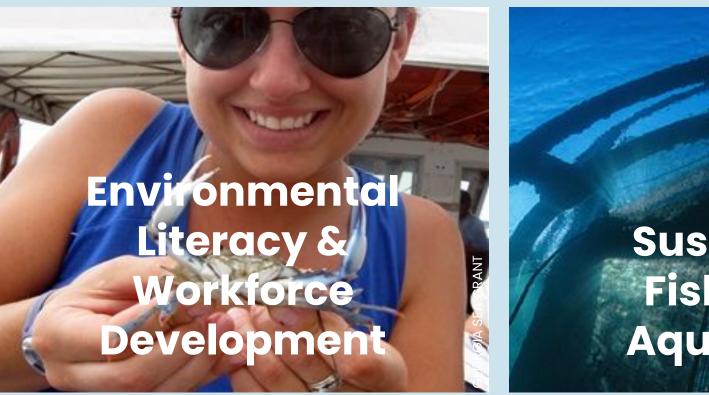
Research Education Extension



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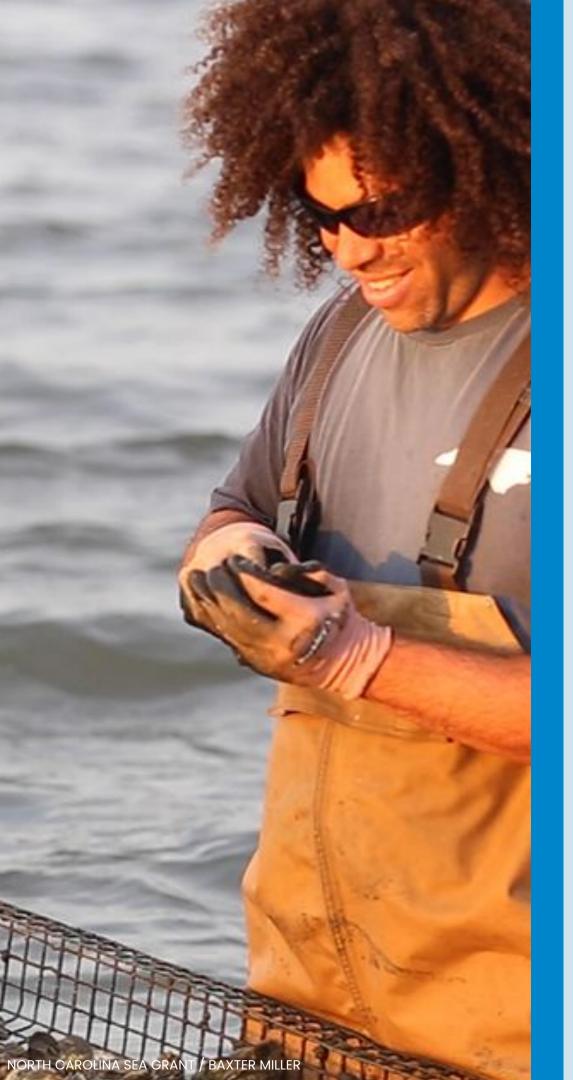






Focus Areas





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Aquaculture Funding

Since 1966, Sea Grant has invested in the development of sustainable marine and Great Lakes aquaculture to help coastal communities maintain a safe and sustainable local seafood supply.

- National Aquaculture Initiatives (NSI)
 - Production
 - Business Support
- Aquaculture Supplemental
- Technology & Education Travel Grants
- Aquaculture Internships Program
- Aquaculture Collaboratives
- Legal Issues



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Consistent with Sea Grant's national focus area of Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Sea Grant Network 10-year Aquaculture Vision, and NOAA and Department of Commerce Aquaculture goals.

Builds on NOAA's investments in extramural aquaculture research through Sea Grant, the National Marine Fisheries Service (Fisheries Commissions and Saltonstall-Kennedy), and NOAA Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grants.



FY 2024 National Aquaculture Initiative: Enhancing Production of Coastal, Marine, and Great Lakes Aquaculture Species

Posted on Grants.gov - December 6, 2023 NOAA-OAR-SG-2024-24677

This webinar will include:

- Available Funding and Project Period
- <u>Program Objectives</u>
- <u>Program Priorities</u>
- Eligibility Information
- <u>Submission Information</u>
- Additional Information

Available Funding & Project Period

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- Sea Grant anticipates having approximately
 \$5,000,000-\$6,000,000 in FY2024 federal funds will be available to fund approximately 4-12 projects for up to three years in the following categories:
 - Up to \$250,000 in Federal funds can be requested by individual entities (e.g. a single individual, group, or institution) for research projects that address one or more topics relevant to program priorities.
 - Up to \$1,200,000 in Federal funds can be requested for projects proposing collaborative, multi-partner efforts addressing the program priorities.
- Projects are expected to start on September 1, 2024
 and be completed by August 31, 2027

Program Objectives

o9 Sea V Grant

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This competition focuses on enhancing research and programs that will develop and refine methods, protocols, techniques, and/or strategies to enhance the production of one or more life stages of aquaculture species. The overall goal of this competition is to enhance the production of aquaculture species to improve the efficiency, output, and profitability of commercial coastal, marine, and the Great Lakes region aquaculture businesses.

Strong applications will address program priorities

- support broad, non-proprietary research to address critical issues and/or barriers with respect to the production of aquaculture species;
- make that information available to U.S. aquaculture businesses;

below and will integrate research and extension:

• and preferably include participation and involvement of Sea Grant extension personnel and industry stakeholders.

Program Priorities

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Projects that focus on one or more life stages of the following aquaculture categories and organisms in both marine and freshwater are eligible for this competition and include:

- Microalgae and macroalgae (seaweed)
- Molluscs
- Crustaceans
- Ornamentals
- Baitfish
- Finfish species for food production
- Misc. invertebrates

Proposals that focus on addressing production challenges of species that are currently being produced or have good potential for commercialization in coastal, marine, or the Great Lakes region environments are preferred.



Program Priorities

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Proposals may address one or more topical areas of research including:

- Reproduction and/or selective breeding
- Genetics
- Larviculture/early development
- Nursery production
- Ongrowing
- Disease/health management
- Nutrition
- Physiology
- Production systems/engineering/automation
- Production methods/strategies/technologies



Program Priorities

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Successful proposals will:

- **Demonstrate a clear understanding** of current limitations and research needs regarding the production of eligible aquaculture species.
- Increase the knowledge base of various aspects of enhancing the production of aquaculture species with the overall goal of improving the efficiency, output, and profitability of commercial coastal, marine, and Great Lakes region aquaculture businesses.
- Involve Sea Grant extension personnel and relevant activities (e.g., education, outreach, transfer of technology and results) to build on past research and inform industry stakeholders and others involved in U.S. aquaculture, including funding (federal or match), as appropriate.

Program Priorities

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Successful proposals will:

- Involve industry participation.
- Engagement with and support of investigators and/or students through partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions is encouraged.
- Engagement of underserved audiences and communities is encouraged.





Eligibility Information

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The following entities are eligible and encouraged to participate in this funding opportunity:

- any individual;
- any public or private corporation, partnership, or other association or entity (including any Sea Grant College, Sea Grant Institute or other institution);
- or any State, political subdivision of a State, Tribal government or agency or officer thereof.

Federal agencies and their personnel are **not permitted to receive federal funding under this competition**; however, federal scientists and other

employees can serve as uncompensated partners or

co-Principal Investigators on applications.



Eligibility Information

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Federal labs and offices can also make available specialized expertise, facilities or equipment to applicants but cannot be compensated under this competition for their use, nor can the value of such assets be used as match.

Non-Federal matching funds equal to **at least 50 percent** of the federal funding request must be provided unless a waiver justified by statute is granted. The cumulative match at the end of each year of the grant must not fall below 50 percent of the cumulative Federal request up to that point.

In-kind contributions directly supporting this application may count towards this matching requirement.

Submission Information

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Letter of Intent (LOI)

LOIs will allow the National Sea Grant Office to gauge interest and topics that may be submitted. While **LOIs are required**, they will **not** be used to decide whether or not a full proposal should be encouraged.

All applicants submitting a Letter of Intent will be eligible to submit a full proposal.

Letters of Intent to this competition **must be received** via electronic mail by the National Sea Grant Office (oar.hq.sg.aquaculture@noaa.gov) by 5:00 pm (local time of lead submitting entity) on January 17, 2024.



Submission Information

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Full Proposal Applications

Full Proposal Applications must be submitted to Grants.gov by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on April 3, 2024.

- National Sea Grant Office staff will only be available to answer questions until 5:00 p.m. EDT.
- Validation or rejection of an application by <u>Grants.gov</u> may take up to two business days after submission.

Application packages are available online and can be downloaded from www.grants.gov under opportunity NOAA-OAR-SG-2024-24677.



Additional Information, Resources & Reminders

18 Sea Sea Grant

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Applications that are missing required elements listed or applications coming from ineligible applicants **may** be rejected without further review.

Applicants must redact all Personally Identifiable Information (PII) in application materials prior to final submission to Grants.gov. PII that must be redacted from the application includes social security number, date of birth, student ID number, or other information which if lost, compromised, or disclosed without authorization, could result in harm, embarrassment, inconvenience, or unfairness to an individual.

Applicants may contact the <u>competition managers</u> to confirm receipt of required application elements prior to the Grants.gov deadline.

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Competition Inbox

(managed by the NSGO Aquaculture Team)

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