Sea Grant is committed to supporting the American seafood industry. Aquaculture plays an increasingly important role in seafood production in the U.S. For over 50 years, Sea Grant has been a leader in promoting safe, strategic and sustainable aquaculture through supporting research, education and extension. This five-year investment plan was developed to allow for consistent, reliable and recurring aquaculture funding opportunities.

NATIONAL AQUACULTURE INITIATIVES OFFERED ANNUALLY

Starting in fiscal year 2024, annual funding will be available for National Aquaculture Initiatives (NAIs). Specifically, in even years, an NAI funding competition with the goal of improving aquaculture production will be offered. In odd years, an NAI funding competition with the goal of supporting aquaculture businesses through projects that address topics including food quality, business planning, economics and education, literacy and workforce development will be offered.

AQUACULTURE TECHNOLOGIES AND EDUCATION TRAVEL GRANTS OFFERED ANNUALLY

Annually, Sea Grant programs may compete for funding to support travel for Sea Grant personnel, researchers, and industry members to domestic and international aquaculture facilities or sites to enhance their knowledge and expertise of aquaculture that can be applied to their specific needs.
AQUACULTURE INTERNSHIPS PROGRAM
OFFERED ANNUALLY
Annually, Sea Grant programs may compete for funding to develop or maintain aquaculture internship programs with industry partners to provide hands-on learning experiences for high school, community college, and/or four-year college students and graduate students.

AQUACULTURE SUPPLEMENTAL
OFFERED BIENNIALLY
In even fiscal years, the National Sea Grant Office will make eligible funds available, at a level of up to 50% of each program’s Omnibus commitment in aquaculture, towards funding projects that develop or maintain activities related to expanding and supporting aquaculture research, extension, education or communication, regionally and nationally.

AQUACULTURE COLLABORATIVES
OFFERED BIENNIALLY
In odd fiscal years, Sea Grant programs may compete for funding to establish Aquaculture Collaboratives. Competitions will be focused on specific topics or will be open to topics. Principal investigators and collaborators of previously funded Collaboratives will be eligible to apply as applicable.

LEGAL NETWORK & MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORT
OFFERED BIENNIALLY
In odd fiscal years Sea Grant programs may compete for funding to support miscellaneous projects or projects that address legal issues related to aquaculture (e.g., permitting, regulation, etc.).