

Interested in Applying for a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Grant?

What is the BAA and why do we like the idea of using it?

The BAA is a grant that supports the transfer of money, property, services or anything of value to a recipient in order to accomplish a public purpose of support (e.g., research for the scientific community) or stimulation that is authorized by Federal statute. More specifically, the purpose of the BAA is to request proposals for special projects and programs associated with NOAA's strategic plan and mission (see below).

In general, this grant is a mechanism that provides a means for the Division/Program to get money to outside entities (i.e., instead of contracting). This grant does not provide an opportunity for staff to apply for funding.

Funding Opportunity Description:

The BAA is a mechanism to encourage research, education and outreach, innovative projects, or sponsorships that are not addressed through our competitive discretionary programs. There are no funds specifically appropriated by Congress for this BAA. Funding for potential projects is contingent upon the availability of FY12, FY13, and FY14 appropriations.

****Anything SWFSC “needs” that does not directly benefit the center is a justified project under the BAA****

BAA Proposal must address 1 (or more) of the following 4 long-term mission goals contained within the NOAA Strategic Plan:

1. climate adaptation, mitigation and responding to climate and its impacts,
2. weather-ready nation: Society is prepared for and responds to weather-related events
3. healthy oceans: marine fisheries, habitats and biodiversity sustained within healthy and productive ecosystems
4. resilient coastal communities and economies: coastal and Great Lakes communities that are environmentally and economically sustainable

Application Process for the BAA Grant

1. **Register and Acquire** E-application packages @ www.Grants.gov
 - Search for the BAA grant using Funding Opportunity # = **NOAA-NFA-NFAPO-2012-2003133**
 - Grants.gov requires applicants to register with the system PRIOR to submitting an application; this can take several weeks & involves many steps! Please, **ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THIS PROCESS**
2. Submission **Date, Time & Anticipated Announcement** and Award Dates:
 1. **Internal Deadline (SWFSC): JUNE 30th**

2. **Rolling** basis submission starting from the pub date of the Federal notice up to 11:59:59 pm Eastern Daylight Time September 30, 2013.
3. **Evaluation** for funding will generally occur within 3 to 6 months of receipt (average ~ 60 d).
4. **NOTE:** Applicants applying in Fiscal Year 2013 should take into full consideration that submissions received after June 30th, 2013 may not be able to be awarded in the FY 2013.

3. **Content and Formatting** of Application:

A. Formatting

1. single spaced; \geq 11-point font; 1 inch margins on 8 x 11 paper
2. project description may NOT exceed 15 pages, exclusive of title page, project synopsis, literature cited, budget info, resumes of investigators and letters of support (if any)

B. Content

1. Signed SF-424 form
2. Title page (1 pg max)
3. Project synopsis (1 pg max)
4. Project Description (15 pg max)
5. Literature Cited (if applicable)
6. Budget and budget justification
7. Assurances (the SF-424B form must be submitted for all non-construction applications)
8. Certification regarding debarment, suspension and other responsibility matters; applicant must submit the federal form CD-511
9. Resumes for each major participant
10. Standard Application Forms (in application package through Grants.gov)
11. Applicants DO NOT need to provide answers to the NOAA NEPA Questionnaire at this time. However, NOAA may require additional info from the applicant regarding potential environmental impacts prior to reviewing the application

C. Send Application to Trisha Culver (trisha.culver@noaa.gov; x2869) and cc Libby Williamson-Ehlers (libby.williamson@noaa.gov; x2823). Trisha and Libby are also available for questions throughout the application process.

Application Review Information

NOAA has standardized evaluation criteria for all competitive assistance announcements. The criteria for this BAA are listed below:

1. importance and/or relevance and applicability of proposed project to the mission goals,
2. technical/scientific merit,
3. overall qualifications of applicants,
4. project costs,
5. outreach and education