

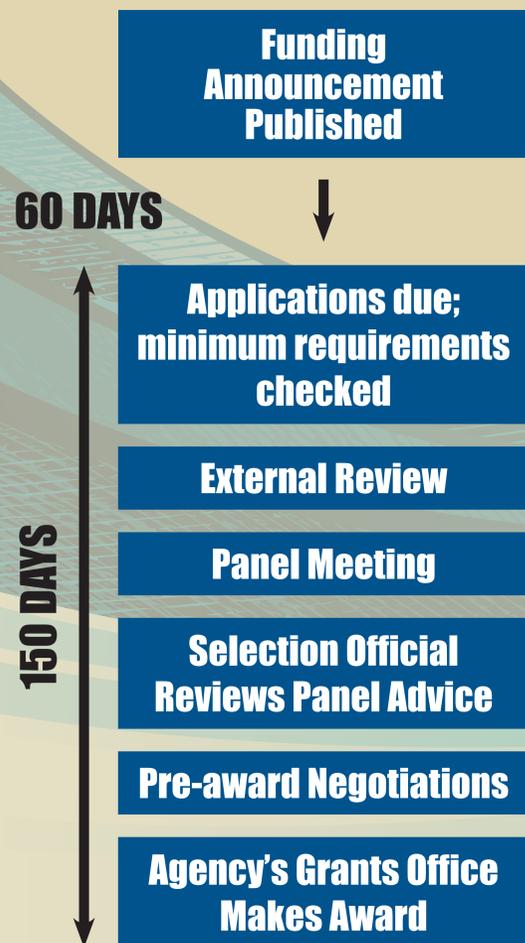
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Writing Successful NOAA Grant Applications

What to Know Before You Apply

- Get registered with Grants.gov and SAM.gov.
- Read (carefully) the funding announcement.
- Participate in informational teleconference (if available).
- Review additional information provided on associated websites (FAQ, application templates, etc.).
- Pay attention to reviewer evaluation criteria to make sure your project matches the funding opportunity well.
- Be prepared to tailor your application to the specific funding opportunity. (Don't submit a application written for another agency announcement without major revision.)

Review and Selection Process



Project Description

Describe in detail what your project will achieve:

- What: goals and objectives
- Why: need for your project
- Who: target audience, location
- How: plan of action, and lasting impacts

Compare your description to the reviewer evaluation criteria in the funding announcement to ensure your project fits.

Qualifications of Applicant

- Describe the ability of your organization to successfully implement and manage proposed project.
- Highlight organization's expertise, past experience, and qualifications of key staff.
- Resumes/CVs are required.

Budget

- Make sure to show the basis for your costs: provide clearly delineated description of costs.
- Make sure it adds up and is not over the max or below the minimum.
- Look at where your money is allocated and what this says about the project.
- There are budget templates or models available. Include documentation of indirect cost rate agreement.



NOAA Assets

Applicants must utilize NOAA assets in delivery of program. These include:

- NOAA staff
- NOAA facilities
- NOAA protected natural areas
- NOAA data
- NOAA education resources (e.g. Online Tutorials, In-depth Curriculum, Individual Lesson Plans)

Project Evaluation

- Explain your plans for meeting the goals and objectives of your project and for tracking and measuring progress on your outputs and your short-term outcomes.
- Use specific and appropriate approaches to project evaluation.
- Plans may be quantitative and/or qualitative and may include, for example, evaluation tools, observation, or outside consultation.
- Include appropriate funds for evaluation in the budget.
- Identify your evaluator and include them in the writing team.
- Reviewers will not be impressed by broad outcomes that evaluation is not assessing.

Outreach & Dissemination

- Projects should include significant external sharing and communication.
- How are experiences or results/lessons learned shared with peers and others in the community?

Partnerships

- Partnerships among multiple organizations or networks of organizations are typically a component of full-scale implementation.
- Include commitment letters from partners detailing their role in and/or funding of project.
- Do not include letters of general endorsement.



Important Links

www.grants.gov
www.noaa.gov/office-education/bwet
www.noaa.gov/office-education/elp
www.noaa.gov/education

