



North Carolina Sea Grant
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KENAN INSTITUTE
ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE
NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Community Collaborative Research Grant (CCRG) Program Request for Proposals 2016-17

North Carolina Sea Grant, in partnership with the William R. Kenan Jr. Institute for Engineering, Technology and Science based at North Carolina State University, is pleased to announce the second annual competitive research funding opportunity for the Community Collaborative Research Grant Program, known as CCRG.

The purpose of the CCRG is to address priority coastal issues that align with Sea Grant's mission and strategic plan. Specifically, the CCRG requires the use of a collaborative research approach that couples the knowledge of community stakeholders with academic experts.

While members of the public may have local knowledge of their own communities, they oftentimes do not have the scientific expertise required to fully characterize the problem and craft science-based solutions. Conversely, academic experts may be knowledgeable of the scientific principles and potential solutions required to mitigate the problem, but lack the social, community and historical perspective that will aid in crafting solutions to meet the expectations of community members. This type of collaborative research approach — specifically requiring the linkage of local knowledge expertise with university researchers — has proven successful in developing new tools and approaches in coastal resource management.

The current North Carolina Sea Grant Strategic Plan defines five focus areas: 1) Healthy Coastal Ecosystems; 2) Sustainable Coastal Development; 3) Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply; 4) Hazard Resilience in Coastal Communities; and 5) Environmental Literacy and Career Initiation. Submitted proposals must justify how the work would be relevant to the Sea Grant mission and how it would address at least one of the above focus areas. Please consult the strategic plan, at ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/2014-strategic-plan, to help you with this aspect of your proposal.

Eligibility

Proposals must significantly involve North Carolina citizens who are involved with or knowledgeable of the coastal issues to be addressed. Proposals without concise research questions will not receive favorable reviews. Project teams must have two-person leadership: one scientific expert and one local-knowledge expert. Additional participants are allowable as collaborators. These roles may include faculty or staff members from a North Carolina-based institution of higher learning (e.g., college, university, or community college), staff from local and/or state governmental

entities in North Carolina, staff members of nongovernment organizations based in offices in North Carolina, North Carolina business owners, and private North Carolina citizens. Federal government and Sea Grant employees are not eligible to receive funding, but may participate as collaborators. Liability insurance coverage is required to conduct projects.

Proposal Development

Proposals should be collaborative and represent a process that utilizes both the scientific and local-knowledge experts throughout the entire project. Every applicant is encouraged to consult with Sea Grant specialists and/or experts in the targeted focus area(s). Sea Grant specialists can provide early feedback on a project idea and help to identify team members. Applicants are encouraged to detail how they will transfer their results to community and academic stakeholders. Contact information for Sea Grant staff members is available at ncseagrant.org under the About menu item.

Funding Availability

Awards will range between \$2,000 and \$25,000 with an estimated two to 12 awards per year. Indirect costs may not be charged. Matching funds are not required but are encouraged. Investigators may only propose one-year (12 months maximum) research projects. Multiyear projects will not be considered. Projects should be planned around an April 1, 2017 start date. Individuals may be lead PI or co-PI on only one proposal, but can be participants on multiple proposals.

Application Process

The application form (MS Word document) contains all required fields (Items 1 to 21) and is available at ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/grants under Other Opportunities. Proposals that do not follow the supplied format and structure will not be considered.

Online yearly progress reports and a final report will be required for all funded projects.

Proposals should be succinct, but sufficiently detailed for review by peers, potential users of results and program advisors. The application form, when completed, can be a maximum of **four single-spaced pages**. Narrative text should be typed in the form in a 12-point Times font, maintaining one-inch margins. The budget, budget justification, references (optional), letter(s) of support (optional), and CV or resume (one-page maximum length and optional) do not count toward the four-page limit. Supplemental materials (diagrams, photos, etc.) are acceptable only if they enhance the project explanation. If provided, they also do not count toward the four-page limit and should be included as separate appendices. Proposals not meeting these criteria will not be considered.

University-affiliated applicants also must include a cover page signed by their respective office of sponsored programs.

Proposal document(s) should be submitted as a Word or PDF file(s). Complete proposals must be received by **4 p.m. on Jan. 12, 2017**. Proposals can be hand-delivered, mailed or emailed. Faxed proposals will not be accepted. Email proposals to Vanda Lewis, vlewis@ncsu.edu. Mail or

deliver signed hard-copy applications to Vanda Lewis, North Carolina Sea Grant, NC State University/CMAST, 303 College Circle, Morehead City, NC 28557.

Notification of Proposal Award

Notification letters of funding decisions will be sent by March 31, 2017.

Review Procedures

Anonymous peer reviews will be conducted for all applications. All proposals will be reviewed for scientific and technical merit, and the ability to address one or more of the specific focus areas. Project quality will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Addresses one or more of the focus areas and is relevant to the mission of North Carolina Sea Grant.
- Includes a collaborative process that utilizes both the scientific and local knowledge expert throughout the project.
- Presents a work plan leading to conclusions.
- Demonstrates familiarity and experience with the problem addressed.
- Includes innovative ideas, approach and/or potential findings.
- Extends findings to community and academic audiences.
- Provides a reasonable, itemized budget.

Based on reviews, top proposals will be run through a technical panel of experts that will make funding recommendations to North Carolina Sea Grant. Final funding decisions, including the level of funding for each project is at the Sea Grant executive director's discretion.

Additional Information about the CCRG:

For questions about the CCRG, or specific questions regarding academic partners, contact:

John Fear, Deputy Director, North Carolina Sea Grant

Phone: 919-515-9104 or 252-222-6314

Email: jmfear@ncsu.edu

For questions about the CCRG, or specific questions regarding community partners, contact:

Scott Baker, Fisheries Specialist, North Carolina Sea Grant

Phone: 910-962-2492

Email: bakers@uncw.edu

Attachment:

2016-2017 Funding application