

2024 Annual Application Questions and Answers

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program
2024 Annual Notice of Grant Opportunity
Version 2; Date: 09/6/2023

Introduction

On July 28, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) published the Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program "[2024 Annual Notice of Grant Opportunity](#)". Program staff have received several questions from potential applicants. We are sharing the answers, so all have the same information.

Please contact us if you have additional questions.

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Questions and Answers

Added 08/29/2023: We are a small local business, with an environmental focus. We are partnering with several agencies in the area for a project. They recommended I look to the Coastal Program for financial support. I know we are not eligible to apply and receive grant funds, but a couple of the nonprofits have volunteered to be the fiscal host. We are in discussions with each of them but have a couple of questions. Is that a possibility and if we have not yet selected a fiscal host, can we still submit a letter of intent?

Ideally, you would have a nonprofit partner identified and they would submit the Letter of Intent on behalf of the project. If this coalition is not ready to pick a fiscal host, I recommend you submit a Letter of Intent **from the entire group**. Add a sentence or two about how and when a selection will be made.

I am still exploring match opportunities; can I submit a Letter of Intent?

We recommend you do. The full application is not due until December 1, so you have some time to review your options. In your Letter of Intent, you should note which opportunities you are exploring and when you expect to know if you have secured the required match.

I would like to hire a graduate student to help with my project, could I spread the funding over two years so that I am able to cover their salary and tuition?

Unfortunately, the federal award that would fund the project is only 18 months (July 2024-December 2025). All project activities must be complete, and funds expended by the expiration.

If you are a previous grantee, you may know the State has received an 18-month extension for every Coastal Program federal award. However, this is not guaranteed, and we must not expect it.

We need to complete a recreation plan, is this allowed?

It depends. The Coastal Program cannot fund playgrounds or sporting facilities (i.e., ball fields or courts). If the site provides public access to Lake Superior or its public waterways, the project may be eligible. We recommend you vet project activities with the Coastal Program.

I am outside the Coastal Area, are there other State/DNR grants that might support my project?

There may be. The DNR has a list of open [Grant Opportunities](#) and individual programs post their available grants on their webpages. Check it out, or feel free to reach out and I'll direct you to other funding opportunities if I can.