

2019 Annual Notice of Grant Opportunity

Published: 11/16/2018

Questions and Answers

On October 2, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) published its "[2019 Annual Notice of Grant Opportunity](#)" for Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program. Since that time, staff have been fielding questions and providing clarification on its contents. We've included them below for everyone's benefit.

Please don't hesitate to contact [Cynthia Poyhonen](#) if you have questions that aren't on this list. We'll answer them as they come in and add them to this document through November 16.

Finances

Can we use all of the Indirect Cost as match?

Yes, you can use all of the indirect cost as match. If you have a federally negotiated indirect cost rate, you may use that (but must submit the agreement). If you do not, you may use the 10% de minimis of the modified total direct cost. The definition of modified total direct cost is included in [2 CFR 200.68](#); and on page 17 of the Notice of Grant Opportunity.

Example: if your project requires a total of \$10,000 in Personnel, you may include \$1,000 indirect. In this case, you may ask for \$5,500 in grant funds for Personnel and apply \$4,500 (Personnel) and \$1,000 (indirect) in match.

Is fundraising an eligible expense?

Per [NOAA budget guidance](#), fundraising is not an allowable cost but the dollars you raise may be used as match.

****NEW (11/16/2018) Can you please clarify the Financial Documentation section?***

If you have a federally negotiated indirect cost rate, you must submit the agreement with whichever federal agency you negotiated. If you do not have an agreement, you may apply a 10% de minimis.

Non-profits are the only organizations that must submit organization financials (990, audit, statement) and only if you apply for more than \$25,000.

****NEW (11/16/2018) Can a subcontract charge their billable rate, instead of their hourly salary?***

If you plan to subcontract any part of the project, you must comply with the bidding requirements for [municipalities](#), [nonprofits](#) (click on Forms and FAQs tab, see the Competitive Grant Agreement for Non-Governmental Organizations) or the University. You must also comply with Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) [200.318](#)-236. When you solicit quotes, you may set the parameters for your vendors. The agreement with the subcontractor must contain all of the provisions in the grant agreement between you and the DNR.

General

Is _____ an eligible project?

As long as your project is not included on the “Ineligible Projects” list on page 10, your project is most likely eligible. That said, you will want to make sure you can answer “Impact to Coastal Area” and “Relevance to the Coastal Program”. Explain how your project will positively influence management in the coastal area and/or Lake Superior. Describe why the project is as good fit for the Coastal Program. Use research, data, and/or letters of support to justify your claims.

Can grant funds be used to repair a break wall on private property?

Grant funds cannot be used to improve private property or support a private enterprise. If you want to call or email us, we may be able to refer you to other resources.

****NEW (11/16/2018) Can we do a planning project on land we do not currently own?***

I would be very clear what your plans are to either acquire or have an easement on the property. You cannot use Coastal Program funds to improve/enhance private property. If any private property is in the project area, you may want to speak to the likelihood of acquiring said property.