



## New Hampshire Sea Grant Call for Research Proposals

New Hampshire Sea Grant seeks pre-proposals for its next funding cycle, February 1, 2018 to January 31, 2020. Every two years, N.H. Sea Grant (NHSG) issues an RFP for its Omnibus Proposal for those seeking major ( $\leq$  \$100k/year) funding for research projects. During 2017, the program will be reviewing proposals from investigators for one or two-year research funding during 2018-2020. A brief summary of this opportunity is provided below along with links to additional information.

The guiding philosophy for N.H. Sea Grant is to serve the state and region by supporting innovative and cutting-edge research integrated with expert extension, outreach and education to support dialogue and science-based decision-making in areas of particular importance to our region. To meet our organizational mission, we seek to foster and support the highest quality marine and coastal research and education projects that relate to the [N.H. Sea Grant Program's Strategic Plan's](#) Focus Areas:

- 1- Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture
- 2- Healthy Coastal Ecosystems
- 3- Resilient Communities and Economies
- 4- Environmental Literacy and Workforce Development

For this particular RFP, the N.H. Sea Grant Program encourages proposals to address the need for *Safe and Sustainable Seafood Production* through responsible stewardship of healthy coastal ecosystems that balances ecosystem services and helps communities maintain working waterfronts and coastal economies. Achieving progress will require innovative biophysical, socio-economical and engineering research. High quality proposals that do not focus on this theme, but on other Focus Areas outlined in the current strategic plan will also be considered.

Examples of research topics related to this theme NHSG are:

- Aquaculture production (technical, engineering, ecosystem impact) including an assessment of business opportunities and risks);
- Improved science and understanding of ecological processes and community interactions in coastal and estuarine waters;
- Improved seafood processing and marketing;
- Harvesting and production methods that improve environmental impact of aquaculture/harvesting;
- Reduced public and ecosystem risks due to contaminants, pathogens and biotoxins; and
- Impacts of climate change on ecosystems and fisheries

The new Strategic Plan for NHSG is still under review by the national office, so please refer to the [2014-17 N.H. Sea Grant Strategic Plan](#) that provides specific guidance on goals for research, extension and education. Investigators writing research proposals should carefully read this document and consider how their proposed project aligns with the research theme and/or the broader goals of NHSG. The links listed below provide information and access to important related information.

For complete RFP guidelines and submittal information, please visit our <http://seagrant.unh.edu/biennial-request-proposals>.

**Pre-proposals must be submitted through the N.H. Sea Grant eSeaGrant system by 5:00 p.m. on February 24, 2017.** Notification of the status of the review of all preliminary proposals will be made by April 14, 2017. A timeline of the RFP process and deadlines is provided on the [RFP webpage](http://seagrant.unh.edu/biennial-request-proposals). (<http://seagrant.unh.edu/biennial-request-proposals>) Full proposal submissions will be due by June 2, 2017 at 5:00PM EDT.

### Eligibility

Principal Investigators (PIs) must be affiliated with an academic or research laboratory institution of higher education in New Hampshire. Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) on proposed projects funded through sub awards can be from institutions outside of New Hampshire and/or non-profit and private research laboratories. Single investigators and multiple investigator research teams from different institutions are encouraged to apply. Proposed projects that involve work by PIs in two states in the Northeast will apply to both programs, and need to communicate the multi-state nature of the proposal to both programs.

### Project Duration and Funding Level

Proposed activities may be of one or two years in duration, for the period between February 2018 and January 2020. The pre-proposal budget should not exceed \$100,000 per year in Sea Grant funds, including all direct and indirect costs. In addition to Sea Grant funds, there is a 50% matching requirement, i.e. \$1 in non-federal match is required for every \$2 requested from Sea Grant. Therefore, the maximum annual budget is \$100,000 in Sea Grant funds with a mandatory \$50,000 non-federal match. The project scope should reflect the available funds.

### Match Requirements

Details for matching funds are not required during the pre-proposal phase but will be for all final proposals. Sea Grant is a matching funds program, which requires that at least 50% of the aggregate federal dollars received be matched by state or private funds (\$1 of match for every \$2 of requested federal Sea Grant funds). N.H. Sea Grant recognizes that all PIs may not be able to provide a 50% match in their proposals. However, we ask that you provide as much as possible from non-federal sources. In-kind matching from university or other sources is often acceptable. Possible sources of matching funds include faculty/staff salaries, departmental or college student stipends, benefits, donated lab or ship time, indirect costs, and real or in-kind contributions from non-federal partners.

### Adding Extension and Outreach to Your Proposal

Successful proposals will clearly identify end users of the resulting research, and robust engagement activities will be a requirement for all proposals. Thus, we strongly recommend that researchers seek to work with Sea Grant extension specialists and educators as early as possible to ensure their input is integrated into proposals from the beginning. Please reference guidelines provided on the [RFP webpage](http://seagrant.unh.edu/biennial-request-proposals). (<http://seagrant.unh.edu/biennial-request-proposals>)

## Pre-Proposal Submission Process

Preliminary proposals must be submitted by February 24, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (FIRM DEADLINE). Pre-proposals will be submitted through the N.H. Sea Grant eSeaGrant system. Since this is a new system, we encourage you to start, and complete your submission well in advance of the deadline. Last minute submissions run the risk of encountering problems that cannot be resolved in time.

The portal will be available on this webpage on February 6, 2017. The portal link will be available here. Once open, you will need to first register in eSeaGrant in order to receive login credentials to create an application.

If you do not receive a "Welcome" email with login credentials, please contact Sally Nelson ([sally.nelson@unh.edu](mailto:sally.nelson@unh.edu)). Once you login, you can change your password. To do so click your name in the upper-right corner of the screen, and select "My Profile."

To start a proposal, or revisit/edit an existing proposal, click on "Current Tasks" on the banner head. Then search for and click on the application labeled "NHSG 2018-2020 RFP"

## Pre-Proposal Components

All pre-proposals will include:

**Project Narrative** (three-page maximum in PDF format) to include:

- a concise description of the project
- the programmatic relevance for Sea Grant funding (based on the [2014-2017 N.H. Sea Grant Strategic Plan](#))
- Experimental design
- Technical and Extension approaches
- Expected outcomes, products and impacts of the effort
- The end users of any results, new information and/or deliverables should be clearly and specifically identified.
- **Bottom-line budget estimation and brief budget explanation** - Please estimate the approximate overall cost of the project including the 50% match. Detailed budget, institutional signatures and match details are not required for the preliminary proposal.

**Personnel Description and Roles** - PI, Co-PI and senior staff contact information and one-page CV's. PI name and contact information will be entered into fields within eSeaGrant. CV's will be uploaded in PDF format.

**Results of prior Sea Grant Support** - No more than one page per project in PDF format. Include all projects receiving funds from any Sea Grant program during the previous five years.

## Full Proposal Preparation

Investigators interested in submitting a full proposal will have electronic access to *Guidelines for Preparing a Full Proposal*, which contains information on content, format, and necessary forms for full proposals. In early Spring the guidelines will be available to download from our website at: <http://seagrant.unh.edu/biennial-request-proposals>

## Information Meetings

N.H. Sea Grant will hold the second [N.H. Sea Grant Research Symposium](http://seagrant.unh.edu/Symposium) (<http://seagrant.unh.edu/Symposium>) as a means to inform prospective PIs about the ongoing program and this new RFP. The symposium will be held on February 3, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Huddleston Hall Ballroom, UNH Durham. An informational meeting will take place immediately following the symposium.

N.H. Sea Grant will also hold informal meetings at UNH and other academic institutions with prospective PIs upon request. Please contact [Steve Jones](mailto:Stephen.jones@unh.edu), ([Stephen.jones@unh.edu](mailto:Stephen.jones@unh.edu)) to schedule.

## RFP Calendar

Jan. 4, 2017	Release 2018-2019 request for preliminary proposals
Feb. 24	Pre-proposals Due by 5:00 p.m.
Mar. 8	Pre-proposals distributed to Advisory Panel
Apr. 10	Panel Review
Apr. 14	Recommendations to PI's regarding development of full proposals
May 22	Peer reviewer List due to NHSG office by 4:30 p.m.
June 2	Full proposals due by 5:00 p.m.
June 17	Full proposal distributed to peer reviewers
July 24	Full proposal peer reviews due to NHSG by 5:00 p.m.
Aug. 4	Blinded peer reviews provided to PI's
Aug. 14	PI Rebuttals due to NHSG by 5:00 p.m.
Aug. 16	Packages to Technical Advisory Panel and to National Sea Grant Office
Sept. 17	Technical Advisory Panel Meets
Oct. 1	Applicants informed of decisions
Oct. 30	2018-2019 Omnibus proposal mailed to National Sea Grant Office
Feb. 1, 2018	Anticipated 2018-2019 awards begin

## Contacts

### General Information

[Steve Jones](mailto:stephen.jones@unh.edu), Associate Director ([stephen.jones@unh.edu](mailto:stephen.jones@unh.edu)) (603.862.5124)

[Erik Chapman](mailto:erik.chapman@unh.edu), Acting Director ([erik.chapman@unh.edu](mailto:erik.chapman@unh.edu)) (603.862.1935)

### Budget Information

[Lisa Scigliano](mailto:lisa.scigliano@unh.edu), Fiscal Administrator ([lisa.scigliano@unh.edu](mailto:lisa.scigliano@unh.edu)) (603.862.0529)

### Engagement and Outreach Proposal Components

[Julia Peterson](mailto:julia.peterson@unh.edu), Extension Program Leader ([julia.peterson@unh.edu](mailto:julia.peterson@unh.edu)) (603.862.6706)

[Steve Jones](mailto:stephen.jones@unh.edu), Associate Director ([stephen.jones@unh.edu](mailto:stephen.jones@unh.edu)) (603.862.5127)

### Proposal Submission Information or Technical Problems

[Sally Nelson](mailto:sally.nelson@unh.edu), Administrative Coordinator ([sally.nelson@unh.edu](mailto:sally.nelson@unh.edu)) (603.862.2987)