

## FY2024 Social, Cultural, and Economic Assessment of Harmful Algal Blooms

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): NOAA-NOS-NCCOS-2024-2008101

The following FAQs includes questions received during the September 6, 2023 webinar on the FY 2024 Social, Cultural, and Economic Assessment of Harmful Algal Blooms Funding Opportunity. Some questions have been edited for clarity.

If you have questions that are not answered here, please contact SEAHAB Program Manager, Brittany King ([brittany.king@noaa.gov](mailto:brittany.king@noaa.gov))

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Q: Where can I access information about this funding opportunity?**

**A:** The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is posted at Grants.gov, and can be directly accessed here: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=349953>. Within a few days of the webinar, a link to the recording, a PDF of the slides, and Q&A will be posted on the [NCCOS Funding Opportunities](#) page. See links under "New Funding Opportunities" on the page to access the webinar recording, slides and this FAQ document.

#### **Q: Do your research programs support freshwater systems or just marine/coastal/estuary systems?**

**A:** Our national HAB programs will not fund research on inland or freshwater HABs except in the Great Lakes and coastal waters, which, as defined in the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1453 (3)), contain a measurable quantity or percentage of seawater. Research on freshwater toxins that are transported into the coastal zone is, however, permitted. This information can be found in the NOFO under "Examples of non-applicable research topics."

#### **Q: Can community leaders or nonprofit employees be PIs?**

**A:** Eligible applicants for Federal financial assistance are U.S. institutions of higher education, other non-profits, state, local, tribal government entities, U.S. Territories, and for-profit organizations. PIs must be employees of an eligible entity listed above; and applications must be submitted through that entity.

#### **Q: Are any geographic regions being prioritized in reviewing the LOI?**

**A:** No. A Letter of Intent (LOI) that describes research in any HAB impacted U.S. coastal or Great Lakes region may be submitted for consideration.

#### **Q: Do we need a line item budget for the LOI or just a bottom line number?**

**A:** Letters of Intent only require the approximate cost of the project. A detailed line item budget is required when submitting the full application.

**Q: Can you explain more about the Management Transition Advisory Group recommended in the NOFO?**

**A:** This competition aims to produce actionable information and user-driven products that enable resource managers to assess management and policy strategies and to improve understanding of threats to ecosystems and communities. Proposed research should be collaborative - involving the users - managers, planners, policymakers & impacted communities - as partners or advisors. Therefore, we strongly encourage the Lead Principal Investigator to establish a Management Transition Advisory Group (MTAG) to ensure effective collaboration between the project PI(s) and end users and the successful transfer of research results to the intended end user(s).

**Q: Will this call consider the social, cultural & economic impacts of HABs in conjunction with other stressors and/or policies?**

**A:** Proposed projects must address the program priorities listed in the NOFO and may address impacts in conjunction with the other stressors and policies.

**Q: Are you interested in behavioral response to strategies to mitigate the HABs themselves, or responses to strategies to mitigate human exposure to HABs?**

**A:** Proposed projects may address behavioral responses to strategies to prevent, control or mitigate HAB events and/or strategies to mitigate human exposure to HABs.

**Q: Is there a link to show projects funded under this call during the last cycle?**

**A:** The following projects were funded under a PCMHAB competition that called for social-economic projects separately from the rest of PCM:

- [Assessing Societal Impacts of Harmful Macroalgae Blooms in the Caribbean](#)
- [Evaluation of Mitigation Strategies for Harmful Algal Blooms in the West Coast Dungeness Crab Fishery](#)
- [Value of the Pacific Northwest Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast](#)
- [Value of the SoundToxins Partnership: An Early Warning System for HABs in Puget Sound](#)

NCCOS also partnered with [The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System \(GCOOS\)](#) to fund the following projects, designed to uncover the full costs of the 2017-2019 Florida red tide event across numerous sectors:

- [Assessment of the Short- and Long-term Socioeconomic Impacts of Florida's 2017-2019 Red Tide Event](#)
- [Estimating Economic Losses and Impacts of Florida Red Tide](#)

**Q: What is HABHRCA?**

**A:** The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act (HABHRCA; 33 U.S.C. §4001-4010, 1998, 2004, 2014, and 2017) authorizes NCCOS CRP competitive Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) research programs and directs NOAA to advance the scientific understanding and ability to detect, monitor, assess, and predict HAB and hypoxia.

