

# **NCCOS FY 2024 Funding Opportunity for Social, Cultural, and Economic Assessment of Harmful Algal Blooms**

**NOAA-NOS-NCCOS-2024-2008101**

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**NOAA NCCOS Competitive Research Program (CRP)**



# Agenda

- Background
  - NCCOS Competitive Research Program
  - National Competitive HAB Programs
- SEAHAB Program Priorities
- Award Information
- Eligibility
- Letter of Intent
- Full Proposal
- Evaluation Criteria
- Final Advice
- **Q&A**



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# NCCOS Competitive Research Program

- NCCOS CRP supports the development of actionable information and tools that improve how the nation protects, manages, and conserves ocean and coastal ecosystems
  - **Harmful algal blooms**
  - Hypoxia
  - Ocean acidification
  - Sea-level rise
  - Mesophotic coral ecosystems
  - Ecosystem-based management
- **Objective**: 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
- **Collaborative research process** – resource managers, planners, policymakers, and impacted communities are **partners** or **advisors** on research projects
- Research outcomes must benefit management

# National Competitive HAB Programs

- **Harmful algal blooms\*** (HABs) are marine and freshwater phytoplankton<sup>†</sup> that have proliferated to high<sup>‡</sup> concentrations, resulting in nuisance conditions or harmful impacts on marine and aquatic ecosystems, coastal communities, and human health through the production of toxic compounds or other biological, chemical, and physical impacts of the algae outbreak
- **Objective**: Address HAB occurrence and impacts on coastal ecosystems, public health, and the economy
- NCCOS CRP funds HAB research to advance a holistic ecosystem understanding, enhance mitigation capacity, develop and advance control strategies, and support better measures of socioeconomic impacts\*

\* Consistent with HABHRCA 2017, 33 U.S.C. §4008(3)

<sup>†</sup> Includes microalgae, cyanobacteria, or macroalgae

<sup>‡</sup> In relation to baseline or abundances observed during non-bloom or non-nuisance conditions, or in the absence of harmful impacts

# SEAHAB: Social, Cultural & Economic Assessment

- The increase in frequency, extent, and variety of HABs has **increased society's concerns** about the safety of our seafood and drinking water, the health of fish and wildlife, the sustainability of communities, losses to fisheries and aquaculture, increased strain on shrinking state, local, cultural and tribal resources, and long-term aquatic ecosystem changes.
- **Economic costs** associated with HAB impacts on public health, fisheries, recreation, and tourism, as well as the use of scarce funds for monitoring and management **can be significant for local communities**.
- A single HAB event can cost tens of millions of dollars.
- **Additional socio-economic costs can stem from public reactions to HAB events** such as canceled vacations, job losses due to decreased demand for seafood, lower value for coastal or lake-front real-estate or property, or loss of access to key subsistence foods.

# Program Priorities

This funding opportunity will focus on research that assess the social, cultural and economic impacts of HAB events.

Proposals must address at least one of the following priorities:

- Social and/or cultural impacts of HAB events response at local, state and/or regional scales.
- Economic impacts of HAB events at local, state and/or regional scales.
- Impacts of HAB events on subsistence at local, state and/or regional scales.

# Program Priorities

Within one of these priorities, ideal proposals will address at least one of the following objectives:

- Assess the impacts of HAB events on different human uses ( e.g., commercial, recreational, and subsistence), human communities, social networks, and/or individuals;
- Identify and/or quantify actual and potential vulnerability and resilience of industries (e.g, shellfish, seafood and tourism), communities, and/or individuals to HAB events;
- Evaluate behavioral response to HAB events and/or HAB prevention, control and mitigation strategies;
- Measure the cost and benefits of HAB prevention, control, and mitigation strategies.

# SEAHAB Program Priorities: Key references

- Proceedings of the Workshop on the Socio-economic Effects of Harmful Algal Blooms in the United States, U.S. National Office for Harmful Algal Blooms, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, March 2021.  
<https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/33455>.
- HARR-HD, Bauer, M., ed. 2006. *Harmful Algal Research and Response: A Human Dimensions Strategy*. National Office for Marine Biotoxins and Harmful Algal Blooms, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA, 58 pp  
<https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/9286>
- Jewett, E.B., Lopez, C.B., Dortch, Q., Etheridge, S.M., Backer, L.C., 2008. *Harmful Algal Bloom Management and Response: Assessment and Plan*. Interagency Working Group on Harmful Algal Blooms, Hypoxia and Human Health of the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology. Washington, DC, 76 pp.  
[https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/jsost\\_hab0908.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/jsost_hab0908.pdf).





# Award Information & Funding Availability

**\$1.5 million anticipated in FY24**

(pending NCCOS Competitive Research appropriations)

3 to 5 projects for up to three years

\$300,000 to \$400,000 per year per proposal

NCCOS/CRP envisions funding at least one project focused on **social, cultural and/or subsistence impacts** of HAB events and at least one project focused on **economic impacts** of HAB events.

# Eligibility

**U.S. institutions of higher education, other non-profits, state, local, tribal government entities, U.S. Territories, and for-profit organizations.**

- Federal applicants are eligible (\*NCCOS researchers cannot be lead PI)
- No cost sharing or matching requirements
- NOAA supports cultural and gender diversity and encourages women and minority individuals and groups to submit applications
- Applications involving historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic serving institutions, tribal colleges and universities, and institutions that work in underserved areas are encouraged
- A letter of Intent (LOI) must be submitted for full proposal to be considered.

## Letter of Intent (LOI) - *Required*

**Applicant(s) who do not submit an LOI will not be eligible to submit a full proposal.**

1. Tentative project title
2. Identify lead and provide contact info for all PIs
3. Approximate cost of the project
4. Statement of the problem and its management relevance
5. Brief summary of work to be completed, methodology to be used, and plan for transitioning results to management application.

**LOIs must be submitted to [nccos.grant.awards@noaa.gov](mailto:nccos.grant.awards@noaa.gov) by 11:59 pm Eastern Time on **October 13, 2023****

**Responses emailed ~2 weeks after LOI deadline.**

**Full proposals encouraged only for LOIs deemed relevant.**

# Full Proposal

(Please read Full NOFO)

1. Standard Form(SF)-424
2. Summary Title Page
3. Abstract
4. Project Description
  - a. Proposed Research
  - b. Application to Management
  - c. Data Management Plan
  - d. Statement of Diversity and Inclusion
5. References cited.
6. Milestone Chart
7. Biographical Sketch
8. Current & Pending Support
9. List of Permits
10. Budget Narrative
11. CD-511
12. SF-424B
13. SF-424A
14. Collaborator List - Alphabetized

**Full proposals must be submitted to  
[grants.gov](https://grants.gov) by 11:59 pm Eastern Time  
on **January 17, 2024****

# Proposal Evaluation Criteria

1. Importance and/or relevance and applicability to program priorities (35%)
1. Technical/scientific merit (35%)
1. Overall qualifications of applicants (15%)
  - a. Capability of the investigator and collaborators to complete the proposed work (10%)
  - b. Statement of Diversity and Inclusion (5%)
1. Project costs (10%)
1. Outreach and education (5%)

# Final Advice

**Read the NOFO, read the NOFO, read the NOFO - focus on Program Priorities (Section I. B.)**

Call the Program Managers or the Grants Manager if you have any questions, especially on:

- Applicability of topic to program goals
- Eligibility of applicant or institution
- Preparing the budget, budget narrative or any other federal forms.

Submit your LOI by email by the deadline, **October 13, 2023**

Submit the proposal through Grants online BEFORE the deadline, **January 17, 2024**

*If you are not submitting a proposal and have related expertise, please consider serving as a reviewer.*

## Questions & Answers Session

Letters of Intent due 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on **October 13, 2023**

Send to [nccos.grant.awards@noaa.gov](mailto:nccos.grant.awards@noaa.gov)

Full Proposals due 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on **January 17, 2024**

Submit on [grants.gov](https://grants.gov)

Forms & example application package: <https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/about/funding-opportunities/application-forms/>

Send additional questions to Program Manager:

Brittany King at [brittany.king@noaa.gov](mailto:brittany.king@noaa.gov)