



# Financial Assistance Workshop

GMD Connected: The New Decade

**Pre-Award/Broad Agency  
Announcement  
Daniel A Namur**





- Competitive and non-competitive Requests for Application (RFA) are created via Grants Online and have outlined guidance for the documentation required by the applicants.
- Once the RFA has been created it is then posted on Grants.gov where the applications are then routed through to Grants Online based on the particular program competition.



- Once the RFA has been published a task to “Review Reviewer Instructions” will be generated and this will trigger Financial Assistance Law Division (FALD) review of all events in the competition.
- Applications will be received up until the closing date of the Request for Applications (RFA) at which point Minimum Requirement review will begin
- Once Minimum Requirements have been reviewed the Competition Manager will receive a task to close the event after the evaluations have been completed.



- After the event has been closed the review of applications process begins. These should be done externally by a Selecting Official
- “Initiate PO Negotiation” for all Program Officers who have selected applications
- Next a task to “Conduct Negotiations” will appear



- Finally complete the award file documents
  - PO Checklist
  - NEPA documentation
  - Procurement Request
  - All other necessary documentation

**FORWARD TO GRANTS  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION**



- What is the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)?
  - The BAA is a mechanism to encourage research, education and outreach, innovative projects, or sponsorships that are not addressed through our competitive discretionary programs. It is not a mechanism for awarding congressionally directed funds.



- New guidance was released for processing BAA Applications for FY 2010 and 2011
- The BAA process has been streamlined because the BAA announcement posted at Grants.gov now has the complete application package of forms. There is no longer a need to create a separate Request for Application(s) (RFA) with a complete application package in Grants Online that, in the past, had to also be posted at Grants.gov for their BAA applicants to use.



Procedure is as follows:

- BAA Applicants will submit unsolicited proposals through Grants.gov
- The Grants.gov RFA includes the BAA and Full Funding Opportunity (FFO)
- Submitted applications will be routed by Grants Online to the appropriate Line Office for processing
- The Line Office Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC) representative will receive the application in their task inbox, who will then reassign to the correct FPO



**Applications must address one or more of the following  
*mission goals***

- *Protect, Restore, and Manage the Use of Coastal and Ocean Resources through an Ecosystem Approach to Management;*
- *Understand Climate Variability and Change to Enhance Society's Ability to Plan and Respond;*
- *Serve Society's Needs for Weather and Water Information;*
- *Support the Nation's Commerce with Information for Safe, Efficient, and Environmentally Sound Transportation; and*
- *Provide Critical Support for NOAA's Mission*



## **Project/Award Period**

Anticipated start date, if found meritorious, generally will be 3-6 months after receipt by NOAA. Applications should generally be submitted for a one year award period, but this may be negotiated if the application is recommended for funding.

**For those applicants without internet access, application forms can be acquired by contacting the individuals listed under the FOR INFORMATION CONTACT section.**



# **Format Requirements/Content Requirements**



## **5 Evaluation Criteria (100 points) weights vary**

- Importance and/or relevance and applicability of proposed project to the mission goals.
- Technical/scientific merit.
- Overall qualifications of applicants.
- Project costs
- Outreach and education



## Review and Selection Process

The review includes determining whether:

- Sufficient funds are available in the budget of the program office;
- Statutory authority exist to provide financial assistance for the project or organization;
- A complete application package has been submitted;
- The Project Description/Narrative is consistent with one or more of NOAA's mission goals; and,
- ❖ The proposal falls within the scope of an existing NOAA competitive announcement.



## **Review and Selection Process cont'd**

**A minimum of three merit reviewers per proposal are required. The reviewers may be any combination of Federal and/or non-federal personnel.**

**Any application considered for funding may be required to address the issues raised in the evaluation of the proposal by the reviewers, Program Officer, Selecting Official, and/or Grants Officer before an award is issued.**



## GMAC Representatives:

Arlene Simpson Porter, Chair

Dan Namur, NMFS

Jane Piercy, NOS

Sam Cortorno, NWS

Sarah Schoedinger, OE

Sarah Schroeder, OAR

Patty Mayo, NESDIS

## References

RFA Creation Manuals

[http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/grantsonline/gol\\_training\\_FPO.htm](http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/grantsonline/gol_training_FPO.htm)

BAA FFO NOAA-NFA-NFAPO-2010-2002272

<http://www.grants.gov>

<https://grantsonline.rdc.noaa.gov/flows/home/Login/LoginController.jpf>