

The NOAA announces the NOAA Ruth Gates Coral Restoration Innovation Grant competition for Fiscal Year 2022

Who: This competitive program provides cooperative agreements to institutions of higher education; non-profits; commercial (for profit) organizations; and U.S. territories and state, local, and Native American tribal governments.

Where: The aim of the NOAA Ruth Gates Coral Restoration Innovation Grant competition is to improve the success of shallow water (<30 m [<100 ft] depth) coral reef restoration in an increasingly variable climate. Applicants must be U.S. based, but may have international partners. All U.S. funded in-water activities must take place within the U.S. coral jurisdictions: American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Program Priorities: The principal objective of this grant program is to move coral intervention science towards field application in order to increase coral survivorship and promote resilient, genetically diverse, and reproductively viable coral populations. Proposed projects must align with goals and objectives of the CRCP Strategic Plan <https://www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/strategic_plan2018/> and/or action items in the NOAA Action Plan on Coral Interventions <<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/noaa-action-plan-coral-interventions>>. NOAA has identified the following two priority areas for this funding announcement: 1.) Research, develop, and advance the application of innovative intervention techniques that support the persistence of corals and improve coral survivorship by enhancing coral resilience to threats, such as ocean warming or coral disease; and 2.) Research and develop methods to improve the survivorship of post larval propagation.

Funding Amount: NOAA anticipates typical federal funding for awards will range from \$100,000-\$250,000/year for a total \$100,000 to \$750,000 over one to three years. NOAA will not accept proposals with a federal funding request of less than \$100,000 or more than \$1,000,000 total over three years. Applicants must provide a 1:1 match of non-Federal funds or must submit a request to NOAA to waive the matching requirement if the applicant can demonstrate 1) no reasonable means are available through which an applicant can meet the matching requirement, and 2) the probable benefit of the project outweighs the public interest in such matching requirement.

How: Applicants must apply through www.grants.gov.

When: Applications need to be submitted through www.grants.gov by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on February 23, 2022. Due to the COVID-19 situation and NOAA staff telework status, paper format applications delivered at our physical address will NOT be accepted for this FY 22-24 application cycle.

Interested applicants may obtain the full Federal Funding Opportunity announcement by visiting www.grants.gov, clicking on the "Search Grants, tab" and searching by funding opportunity number (NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007121) or by CFDA number (11.482).

If you need further information, please contact liz.fairey@noaa.gov