



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT GUIDANCE

Rhode Island Sea Grant has the ability to support small, targeted, one-time grants that come under the general category of Program Development. Program Development awards are provided to help support new, risky, proof-of-concept, or pilot projects looking into emerging areas of importance and interest. In many cases, Program Development funds help support small-scale, innovative projects that lead to submissions of larger grants from other sources. Program Development funds may also be requested to support workshops and educational opportunities that align with RI Sea Grant strategic goals and objectives.

Any request for Program Development funds must be closely aligned with Rhode Island Sea Grant strategic goals and objectives and should help in achieving one or more goal or objective stated in the [RI Sea Grant Strategic Plan](#). There is no admission deadline; a proposal may be submitted at any time for consideration.

Program Development funds are highly limited, and typically requests will be \$5,000 or less. All proposals are reviewed internally, and in some cases may undergo external review. Any proposal submitted for consideration in excess of \$10,000 must go out for robust, external peer review. All proposals are subject to available funds. Program development funds may not be used to provide salary for PIs, faculty, or staff, but may be used as partial support for graduate and/or undergraduate student costs of project engagement.

Indirect costs may not be charged, and matching funds are not required.

In general, decisions are made with a very short turn around time, generally less than one week. In some cases, where further input or research is needed to make an informed decision, it may be a bit longer. Proposals requiring external review may take up to four weeks for a decision.

If you are considering submitting a request for a Program Development award, we invite you to contact the RI Sea Grant director, Tracey Dalton (dalton@uri.edu) or assistant director, Alan Desbonnet (aland@uri.edu), to discuss your idea.

All Program Development award applications are developed in and submitted through the RI Sea Grant eSeaGrant online system; access is provided, as appropriate, pending discussion of your project with the RISG director and/or assistant director. Those awarded funds will be required to submit project updates and reports according to NOAA/Sea Grant guidelines.