



PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

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Marine Aquaculture Pilot Projects RFP Q&A 1/12/18

1) *Is submission of electronic files allowed to your email listed in the RFP, or are you only accepting paper copies?*

A: The preferred method for submitting proposals is electronically via email. Please indicate that you are submitting a proposal for the Marine Aquaculture Pilot Project RFP in the subject line of your email.

2) *Is a contractual subaward to a university allowable? Do you require a signed Letter of Agreement from the Office of Sponsored Research? What other documentation is needed (subaward budget, faculty resume/CV, etc?)*

A: Yes, a subaward to a university is allowable. We require a Letter of Acknowledgment as well as a subaward budget and faculty resumes.

3) *Regarding Indirect Costs, my client does not have a negotiated rate with any cognizant agency, but has proposed a 10% "safe" rate in a pending USDA SBIR grant application. Is it sufficient to use the same rate?*

A: Yes. Using the 10% de-minimus rate in lieu of a negotiated rate is standard practice for Federal subawards with organizations that do not have a negotiated rate. This is sufficient.

4) *There does not seem to be a budget cap on the allowable percentage of funds that can go to a contractor - true?*

A: There is no cap on the amount of funding that can be used for a subaward.

5) *Is there a limit to the number of proposals a company may submit and be awarded?*

A: No, there is no limit.

6) *Does the double-spaced formatting requirement apply to Section (a) Project Summary (1-page limit) and Section (c) Project Budget?*

A: The double space formatting requirement does apply to the Project Summary, but not the Project Budget.

7) *In the RFP under evaluation criteria, one of the criteria is "references". What do you mean here about references? The literature cited or do I have to include support letters from the industry as references?*

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A: A reference is someone who you have worked with or for that can attest to the quality of your work.

8) *In the RFP under "content and form of application" one of the items is "data management plans" do you want us to describe how are we going to storage the data? can you please give us some examples.*

A: This will requested at a later date (if needed) of any successfully funded projects that require a data management plan.

9) *Can you please expand on what the "previous, current, and pending support section" should entail? Are you seeking information about additional grants the project has received and is seeking?*

A: Yes. This would be any prior grants the project has received.

10) *Is there a page limit for the appendices and budget sections?*

A: No.

11) *Project Budget – Should 3rd party consultants performing tasks for the grantee be identified under the "Contractual" category?*

A: If this funding will be used to pay for these consultants, then yes. They would be included under the "Contractual" line of the budget.

12) *Is my project (shellfish, crab, seaweed, algae, etc) eligible?*

A: If your project is related to the aquaculture industry, whether it directly involves production of a specific species or it could be beneficial to the aquaculture industry and is located in the Pacific region of the U.S. and its territories, then yes, it would be eligible. Keep in mind some projects may require a state permit and that these permits can result in project delays that may make a proposal unfeasible due to the expiration date of the grant funds (March 31, 2019).

13) *What type of expenses would be eligible for funding?*

A: Allowable expenses include salaries, benefits, equipment, supplies, travel expenses, contractual services (subcontracts), utilities, etc. Any cost that's allowable under a Federal grant is allowable under this RFP. For information on unallowable costs, please refer to Federal Regulation 2 CFR 200, Sections 410-475. For more info, see:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/CFR-2014-title2-vol1/CFR-2014-title2-vol1-sec200-410>