

Climate Ready Workforce for Coastal States, Tribes, and Territories Competition

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot
September 12, 2023

<p>Agency: US Department of Commerce (DOC); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</p>	<p>Bureau: N/A</p>
<p>Application Deadline: Letters of Intent due: November 30, 2023 Full Applications due: February 13, 2024</p>	<p>Max Award: \$10 million</p>

Description

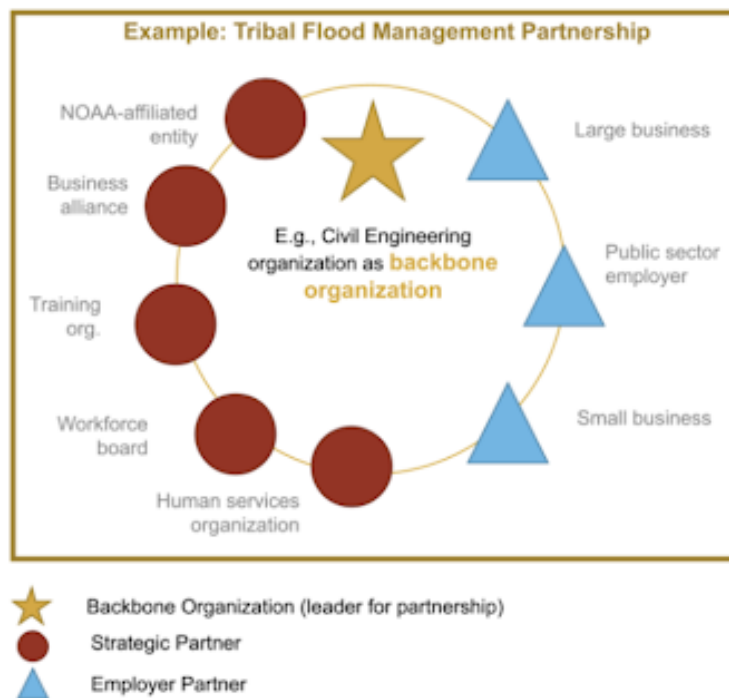
Funded through the Inflation Reduction Act, the goal of the Climate Ready Workforce for Coastal States, Tribes, and Territories Competition (or “Climate Ready Workforce Competition”) is to recruit, train, and place workers in good jobs that enhance climate resilience. NOAA will assist communities in coastal and Great Lakes areas to form partnerships that train workers and place them into jobs that advance climate resilience.

Eligible Recipients

1. State governments
2. Tribal governments
3. Territorial governments
4. Local governments
5. Institutions of higher education
6. Non-profit organizations or associations

Recipients must be located in coastal states or territories. There are several organizational roles for this NOFO, illustrated in the chart below.

A partnership must consist of employers and strategic partners who collaborate to train and place workers into good resilience jobs, convened by the lead entity. The lead entity, or Backbone Organization, must be an eligible recipient.



Eligible Projects

The goal of this program is to connect the in-demand and emerging climate resilience skills needs of employers with qualified workers and help workers find and keep good jobs and advance along their chosen career path, while working to enhance resilience to climate-related impacts. NOAA anticipates making between 10-20 awards under this competition, at amounts ranging from \$500,000 to \$10 million each.

All projects must address the following program priorities:

- Recruit workers into “good jobs that enhance climate resilience” and train them for using climate-informed skills
- Place workers in good jobs within coastal states, tribal nations, and territories with a focus on training workers from the community where the jobs are located
- Support work in disadvantaged communities as identified by the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)
- Identify and include relevant climate experts as strategic partners on the project team to inform project definition and skill development
- Utilize NOAA’s and/or its partners’ scientific data, data access tools, data visualizations, expertise, and/or other physical and intellectual assets to:
 - Document known climate stressors to justify why the identified jobs meet the definition of “good jobs that enhance climate resilience”
 - Inform training designed to advance skills for workforce recruits
- Include appropriate wrap-around services to support training participants in completing the training.
- Work collaboratively to grow regional workforces and their associated economies by (a) co-developing new or (b) enhancing existing training programs that meet the existing and emerging skills needs of employers.
- Build enduring capacity for a workforce that can enhance climate resilience

- Carry out one or both of the following activities:
 - **Program design** for partnerships to identify the skills needed by industry and workers, develop the skills training curriculum and materials in collaboration with employers and NOAA (see Section I.A.2.d.), and secure technical expertise needed to train workers with the skills needed by employers, including providing professional development and capacity-building to trainers and educators; and
 - **Program implementation** to deliver workforce training and wraparound services that place workers into good jobs that enhance climate resilience through new or expanded partnerships.
 - Produce tangible metrics to track progress toward employment, climate resilience, economic, and equity goals.
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Matching Grant Requirements

No matching funds are required.

New or Existing Program

New

Tips for Being Competitive

Priority will be given to projects that can start placing workers within 12-24 months.

Additionally, applications should demonstrate how their proposed projects align with:

- NOAA’s strategic focus to enhance climate resilience, make equity central to our work, and support economic growth and the agency’s mission of science, service, and stewardship, as defined in the [NOAA FY22-26 Strategic Plan](#)
 - The Ocean Climate Action Plan, specifically:
 - Promote coastal community resilience strategies that are adaptive, equitable, and based on best practices.
 - Support transformational resilience investments in coastal habitat restoration, conservation and in coastal community resilience.
 - Advance evaluation and adoption of nature-based solutions, such as living shorelines, to build resilience against climate-driven coastal hazards.
 - Reduce climate threats and improve the resiliency of climate-vulnerable protected species, including marine mammals.
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Labor Requirements

The workers trained under this program must fill jobs located in a coastal state, tribal nation, or territory, with a focus on workers from the community where the jobs are located. NOAA is seeking applications that have firm employer commitments to hire.

Partners Required

Yes. Partners are essential within the Climate Ready Workforce Competitions and applications must include project teams with committed partners. Applicants are encouraged to partner and work directly with climate service practitioners that have a range of experiences, are trained to evaluate climate risk and develop strategies responsive to that risk, and can help identify employers who need skilled workers related to climate resilience.

Partners may include: government entities, educational institutions (including community and technical colleges), training organizations, economic development organizations, workforce development organizations, unions, labor management partnerships, industry associations, employer-serving organizations, conservation corps, not-for-profits, philanthropic organizations, and/or community-based organizations. All partners do not need to be located in coastal states, Tribal nations, or territories.

Agency Contact

sg.grants@noaa.gov

Upcoming Events

NOAA has hosted several informational webinars listed below. Recordings, presentation slides, and transcripts can be found on the [Climate Ready Workforce Program Page under “Resources for Applicants.”](#)

- Informational webinar #1
- Definition of “resilience” webinar
- Informational webinar #2 -Q&A focus
- How to leverage partnerships webinar
- Tips for first-time applicants webinar

Anticipated Award Date

June 2024

Total Allocation

\$50 million

How To Apply

- Applicants must submit a letter of intent (LOI) to sg.grants@noaa.gov by November 30, 2023 at 11:59 EST before a full proposal is submitted. Applicants that do not submit a LOI will not be eligible to submit a full proposal.
- When submitting applications, applicants must be registered in SAM and Grants.gov and have a unique entity identifier (UEI) number.
- Full proposals are due February, 2024 by 11:59 EST.

Resources

- [Climate Ready Workforce Program Page - NOAA](#)
- [Grant Opportunity - Grants.gov](#)