



# NOAA FISHERIES

## Funding Opportunities

NOAA Fisheries is working to address the technical and scientific barriers to marine aquaculture in a number of ways including through in-house research at science centers, grants and cooperative agreements with academic and other stakeholders.

Past projects have responded to key scientific, engineering, environmental, and economic questions such as studies of candidate species, health and nutrition, best management practices, ecosystems monitoring and management, engineered production systems, and legal and operational frameworks.



# Aquaculture Funding Opportunities



## Funding Opportunities

NOAA and other federal agencies administer a variety of financial assistance programs that support sustainable aquaculture in the United States. Funding may address a variety of issues such as environmental monitoring, recirculating aquaculture systems, shellfish farming, alternative feeds for aquaculture, new species research, and offshore aquaculture. The programs below outline NOAA-managed funding opportunities for aquaculture and funding opportunities available through other agencies or venues.

### NOAA Competitive Grants Programs for Aquaculture

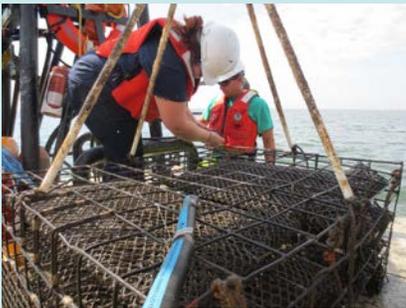
- [Sea Grant Marine Aquaculture Grant Program](#) – This national competitive grant program encourages demonstration projects and research targeted to the development of sustainable marine aquaculture in the United States. The competition is designed to foster dynamic partnerships that channel resources toward the development of sustainable aquaculture technologies. Projects often involve partnerships among commercial companies, research institutions, universities, state governments, and coastal communities. The competition also supports the work of state Sea Grant extension programs.
- [Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program](#) - The Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program includes aquaculture as a priority to fund projects that encourage the development of environmentally- and economically-sound aquaculture as well as relieve fishing pressure and improve market availability of U.S. seafood products.

### NOAA Financial Assistance Program

- [NOAA Fisheries Finance Program](#) - The Fisheries Finance Program provides long-term financing (up to 25 years) in the form of direct loans for up to 80 percent of the cost of construction, reconstruction, expansion, and purchase of aquaculture facilities. The program also may refinance existing



Since 2002, NOAA has funded over \$25 million through the [Sea Grant Marine Aquaculture grant program](#), a competitive grants program coordinated by [Sea Grant](#) and the Office of Aquaculture.



NOAA also has marine aquaculture research capabilities at in-house laboratories within the [Fisheries Service](#) and the [Ocean Service](#), and research and extension capabilities through state [Sea Grant](#) programs.

loans. There are no early repayment penalties and the fees for a new loan are 0.5 percent. Current regulations for the FFP can be found in the Federal Register, Vol. 75, No. 241. Aquaculture is considered a high priority in this program.

## Other Funding Opportunities

- [Small Business Innovation Research \(SBIR\) Program](#) - The SBIR program encourages domestic small businesses to engage in research in scientific and engineering areas (including aquaculture) that has the potential for commercialization. Through a competitive awards-based program, SBIR enables small businesses to explore their technological potential and provides the incentive to profit from commercialization. In addition to NOAA, several federal agencies including USDA-NIFA, NIST, and NSF allocate research and development money to SBIR. Information on currently open solicitations, eligibility, and the application process can be found at [SBIR.gov](#)
- [USDA-National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#) - NIFA offers a variety of funding opportunities through competitive grants, cooperative agreement programs, and other funding mechanisms.
- [Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program](#) - Provides matching funds to assist entities exploring new market opportunities and encourages research and innovation aimed at improving the efficiency and performance of the U.S. agricultural marketing system.

## For information about all federal funding opportunities visit

- [NOAA Fisheries Office of Aquaculture](#)  
[www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/aquaculture](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/aquaculture)
- [Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance](#) at [www.cfda.gov](http://www.cfda.gov)
- [Grants.gov](#)