



2019 Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments Small Grants Competition

Frequently Asked Questions April 8, 2019

Can you clarify what you are asking for in the 'relevant sectors' section of the letter of intent?

For sectors, we're referring to what sector(s) the work will be conducted in, or relevant to (e.g., agriculture, business, cities, infrastructure, natural resources, public health, water).

How is a boundary organization defined? Is a city government considered a boundary organization? Is a for-profit entity working with municipalities and community groups?

There is no rigid definition of a boundary organization for the competition. Any organization that has the trust of the stakeholder group they want to engage (for the project) is considered a boundary organization. So, a city government and/or a for-profit entity as described would both be eligible to apply (independently or as a team).

For the letter of intent, would it be sufficient to list staff job titles (without names) and a description of collective experience? Or would GLISA also like to see employee names, educational background, etc.?

For the letter of intent, listing the job titles and a description of collective experience is sufficient. We understand 2 pages is very limited and are trying to get a general sense of the composition and experience of the team. If you are invited to submit a full proposal, you will have more space to indicate full names and educational background.

Are there any exclusions for federally-funded or NOAA-affiliated programs applying?

No, there is no exclusion for federally-funded or NOAA-affiliated groups. We are usually not able to fund the salaries of federal employees. So, if the funds are being used for other purposes, this would be permitted.

Can we include a GLISA team member (faculty or staff) as part of our project team?

No, GLISA faculty or staff should not be included as part of the project team. GLISA's time commitment is on top of the \$20,000 and does not need to be budgeted. If you have



collaborated with a particular member of GLISA's team in the past and the work is relevant to the proposed work, there is space in the submission form to describe this collaboration.

Is there a conflict or issue if the proposed work is supported, in part, by another federal grant?

No, there is no issue in using two federal grants to support the project. We suggest explaining in your letter of intent how the two grants combined will benefit the overall work. We realize the GLISA grant is very modest, so understanding how the work can be leveraged will be very valuable.

Can the proposed work span two different service subcategories?

Yes, projects may span two different service subcategories. The submission form has been updated to allow you to select both categories.

Can the proposed budget be used to purchase equipment?

GLISA has not funded equipment purchases in past small grant competitions. Per the RFP, "Funds may be used to support salaries of project team members, stakeholder communities, appropriate travel, and hosting and workshop costs." However, equipment can be included if it is integral to the project execution. If you plan to propose funding an equipment purchase, please reach out to Jenna Jorns (jljorns@umich.edu) with more information on the equipment and its relevance to the project.