

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is seeking to enter into financial assistance agreements with national nonprofit public service organizations to promote boating safety on the national level. This announcement seeks proposals for projects that might be eligible for this assistance.

DATES: Application packages may be obtained on or after December 15, 1995. Proposals must be received before 4:30 p.m. eastern time March 18, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Application packages may be obtained from Coast Guard Customer Infoline (800) 368-5647 or (202) 267-0780 and proposals submitted to Commandant (G-NAB-5), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Betty Alley, Office of Navigation Safety and Waterway Services, U.S. Coast Guard (G-NAB-5/room 1202), 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001; (202) 267-0954.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title 26, United States Code, section 9504, establishes the Boat Safety Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. The Coast Guard may award up to 5 percent of the available funds to national, nonprofit, public service organizations to promote national boating safety. It is anticipated that \$1,500,000 will be available for fiscal year 1996. Seventeen awards totalling \$1,625,000 were made in fiscal year 1995 ranging from \$15,000 to \$304,000. Nothing in this announcement should be construed as committing the Coast Guard to dividing available funds among qualified applicants or awarding any specified amount.

It is anticipated that several awards will be made by the Chief, Office of Navigation Safety and Waterway Services, U.S. Coast Guard. Applicants must be nongovernmental, nonprofit, public service organizations and must establish that their activities are, in fact, national in scope. An application package may be obtained by writing or calling the point of contact listed in **ADDRESSES** on or after December 15, 1995. The application package contains all necessary forms, an explanation of how the grant program is administered, and a checklist for submitting a grant application. Specific information on organization eligibility, proposal requirements, award procedures, and financial administration procedures may be obtained by contacting the person listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Some general areas of continuing and particular interest for grant funding include the following:

1. *Develop and Conduct a National Annual Safe Boating Campaign.* Coast Guard seeks a grantee to develop and conduct the 1997 year-round National Annual Safe Boating Campaign that targets boater market segments and specific recreational boating safety topics. This year-round campaign must support the organizational objectives of the Recreational Boating Safety program to save lives, reduce the number of boating accidents and associated health care costs and support the nationwide grassroots activity of the many volunteer groups that coordinate local media events, education programs, and public awareness activities. Products must include, but are not limited to, situation analysis, evaluation processes, measures of effectiveness, marketing strategy, distribution plan, and final report. All print, audio and video material must be designed to emphasize multiple year-round boating safety and accident prevention messages. Highlights of the Calendar Year 1997 national campaign must be special select materials and activities to support National Safe Boating Week and other selected boating events. The major focus of the campaign must be to encourage the use of Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs), with special emphasis on use by children. An established portion of allocated grant funds must support a National Boating Accident Reporting Awareness Program that is designed to reach all boaters and has a message on the importance of reporting all boating accidents. Efforts must also be coordinated with other national transportation safety activities, in particular, those which focus on the prevention of operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Point of Contact: Ms. Jo Calkin, (202) 267-0994.

2. *Develop and Conduct a National Recreational Boating Safety Outreach and Awareness Conference.* Coast Guard seeks a grantee to plan, implement, and conduct a National Recreational Boating Safety Outreach and Awareness Conference. This conference must support the organizational objectives of the Recreational Boating Safety Program to save lives, reduce the number of boating accidents, and lower associated health care costs. The conference must be scheduled for the spring of 1997 and be held concurrent or consecutively with a major recreational boating safety aquatic symposium. The design of the conference should enhance the awareness and development of paid and volunteer professionals; national, State, and local boating safety program organization leaders; and industry specialists. It should provide a unifying link between their programs to those on

the national level. The conference should be a collaborative effort of national organizations interested in the betterment of boating and aquatic safety and should include, but not be limited to, plenary sessions, hands-on workshops, and the distribution of a report publication describing the activities of the conference. Products should include, but are not limited to, evaluation processes, measures of effectiveness, marketing strategy, and final report. Point of Contact: Ms. Jo Calkin, (202) 267-0994.

3. *Market Multi-Use Waterway Guide.* In September 1993, the National Water Safety Congress (NWSC) was awarded a grant from the U.S. Coast Guard for the development of a Comprehensive Guide for Multiple Use Waterway Management. This guide is designed to assist government and private waterway managers in the development of comprehensive boating management plans to resolve multiple-use conflicts. It is to provide the framework for balanced and defensible decisions in developing and implementing plans, policies, and regulatory actions that result in improved boating safety, quality of boating experience, and sustained environmental quality. The guide is to be completed in 1996.

A grant application is solicited to disseminate the guide developed by NWSC in the most efficient and effective formats (paper, electronic, or other) and to have it marketed and made available in a manner that would result in the most widespread and effective use of the guide. Point of Contact: Mr. Jeff Hoedt, (202) 267-0978.

4. *Information Resources Management: Recreational Boating Safety Measures of Effectiveness Data Capture Project Phase II.* The Coast Guard seeks a grantee to conduct the second phase of a Recreational Boating Safety Measures of Effectiveness (MOE) project. The first phase (FY 1995) identified the data needed to develop the project. The second phase (FY 1996) would be contingent on the findings of the FY 1995 phase. If the FY95 grant determines that the second phase of the project is necessary, the grantee would collect the data elements identified under the FY95 project. The overall goal of the 1996 project would be to determine boat occupant exposure hours for developing risk-based measures of effectiveness for the Recreational Boating Safety Program. Point of Contact: Dr. Jerry Boden, (202) 267-0956.

5. *Recreational Boating Accident Health Care Cost Model.* The Coast Guard seeks grantee to develop and design an injury cost model that will be