2024 Coastal Grants

Ania Bayers & Jennifer Weisenberger IDNR Coastal Management Program November 8, 2023









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Housekeeping...

- Webinar will be recorded
- Please mute your lines
- If you have a question, please type in the chat or raise your hand
- Recording of the webinar will be posted on our website within couple days

What we will cover today

- Brief overview of Coastal Management Program
- Grant Program Overview and Details
- Application Process
- Questions and Answers



CMP Overview

Part of Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Office of Water Resources

Mission: We protect and enhance the environmental, economic, and social value of Illinois' Great Lakes coast, fostering healthy ecosystems and resilient communities

Pass-through funding received from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Coastal Program Focus Areas

- Coastal habitats & species
- Economic development, recreation & access
- Coastal communities



Where We Work

- Work focused within designated coastal boundary
- Outreach,
 education,
 planning outside
 of boundary but
 focused on coastal
 issues



IDNR Coastal Grant Program 2013-2023

8 Grant Cycles

Over \$8 million dollars awarded

Over 130 grants to 57 grantees

Range: \$3,000 to \$150,000

2024 Grant Program Details

Applications due Dec 15,2023 by 5pm

Grant Amounts: \$1,000 to \$150,000

Match: 1:1 match for most grants

Timeframe: 18-month grants

• Sep 1, 2024 start date

No Pre-applications

No on-the-ground disturbance (restoration, construction)

Total Funding Available: Around \$800,000 (estimated, based on amount of funds available from NOAA)

2024 Grant Program Details

Eligible Applicants:

- Units of local government
- Non-profit organizations
- Universities

Previous application(s) do not impact eligibility

Multiple applications allowed

Successful applicants must sign a grant agreement

Grant recipients are required to submit quarterly grant reports

New for the 2024 cycle

- Applications must be submitted using AmpliFund
- Direct link to apply: <u>https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/ba181302-a2fa-40b0-946f-f1acd05e5176</u>



Match Requirement

- 1:1 non-federal match required for most applicants
- Reduced match (1:3, grant is for 75% of total cost) for local governmental applicants in economically-challenged communities
- Cash and/or in-kind match allowed
- Must document grant and match expenditures

Economically Challenged Communities

- Blue Island
- Calumet City
- Calumet Park
- Dolton

- North Chicago
- Riverdale
- Waukegan
- Zion

Local governmental applicants from these communities qualify for reduced match requirement

Restrictions

- Grant and match funds cannot be used for:
- Food and beverage
- On-the-ground restoration or construction*
- Land acquisition
- Academic research

*specific to this opportunity



Funding Categories

- 1) Coastal Habitats and Species
- Coastal Public Access, Recreation, and Coastal Dependent Economic Development
- 3) Coastal Community Resilience

Coastal Habitats and Species

Priorities

- Provide educational programming, outreach, and other resources
- Develop plans for acquisition, enhancements and restoration
- Improve nearshore habitats by addressing sources of water quality degradation



Coastal Habitats and Species

Examples of Projects:

- Educational programming
- Community outreach and awareness materials
- Creation of interpretive signs
- Creation of curricula or other educational materials
- Restoration planning and prioritization
- Acquisition feasibility planning
- Engineering and design for restoration projects
- Building partnerships around habitat management
- Planning to identify, prioritize and address significant stormwater management issues
- Engineering and design to implement nature-based solutions that improve water quality

Coastal Public Access, Recreation, and Coastal Dependent Economic Development

Priorities

- Enhance and promote Lake Michigan coastal recreation opportunities
- Improve economic viability and capacity of Illinois' Lake Michigan coastal ports, harbors, and marinas.
- Promote economic development within the climate resiliency sector and develop a workforce skilled in addressing coastal issues



Coastal Public Access, Recreation, and Coastal Dependent Economic Development

Examples of Projects

- Recreation and tourism programming that connects under-served, diverse, and economically disadvantaged populations to coastal resources
- Community outreach, events, and awareness materials or programs
- Creation of interpretive signage or recreational wayfinding signage
- Regional tourism planning
- Creation of curricula or other education or outreach materials; events, workshops, or symposia
- Sustainability planning for ports, harbors, and marinas
- Needs assessments and feasibility studies for ports, harbors, and marinas
- Planning, engineering and/or design of clean marina best management practices
- Skills training program development
- Partnership building and coordination with employers
- Outreach and engagement for worker recruitment
- Capacity building for workforce development and community-based organizations

Coastal Community Resilience

Priorities

- Enhance regional collaboration for improved coastal community resiliency
- Advance planning, design, and engineering of resilience projects. Inclusion of green infrastructure/nature-based solutions is encouraged where possible.



Coastal Community Resilience

Examples of Projects

- Outreach, education, and training
- Partnership and coalition building
- Capacity support for regional resiliency initiatives
- Capacity support for organizations working on coastal resiliency
- Hazard vulnerability assessments
- Land-use planning and master plan development
- Development of tools or resources to improve decision-making
- Development of engineering and design plans for resiliency projects

Ineligible project types

No on-the-ground restoration or construction in this round



Application Process

Application Process

- Create a GATA account (if new)
- Pre-qualify on GATA's grantee portal
- Follow AmpliFund link to Coastal Grants
- Fill out all parts of AmpliFund application
- No Pre-application in this round!



GATA Prequalification

Register at https://grants.illinois.gov/portal

Pre-Qualification Requirements

- DUNS number
- SAM.gov account
- Not on the Federal Excluded Parties List
- Be in Good Standing with the Illinois Secretary of State, as applicable
- Not on the Illinois Stop Payment list
- Not on the Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions list

Fiscal and Administrative Assessment

- Internal Controls Questionnaire (completed on Grantee Portal)
- Successful applicants will have to complete FY24 and FY25 ICQs



AmpliFund

- Direct link: https://il.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/ba1813 02-a2fa-40b0-946f-f1acd05e5176
- Click "Apply" button



Application Items

Application Materials on AmpliFund:

- Uniform Grant Application
- Application Narrative
- Timeline of Tasks/Performance Plan
- Programmatic Risk Assessment
- GATA Budget
- Letter(s) of Commitment (optional)
- Letters of Support (optional)

Evaluation Criteria

- Need (14 points)
- Anticipated Impact (14 points)
- Feasibility and Timeline (10 points)
- Under-Served Communities and Populations (8 points)
- Partnerships and Local Support (6 points)
- Capacity and Qualifications (4 points)
- Cost Effectiveness (4 points)
- Past Performance (3 Points)
- TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 63

Application Submittal

- Submit by 5pm CT, Friday December
 15, 2023
- Applications have to be submitted through AmpliFund
- Partial applications will not be accepted
- Emailed applications will not be accepted
- Do not wait till the last day to log into Amplifund!!!



Resources

- Coastal Grants website resources (https://dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/opengrants.html)
 - AmplFund sign-up information
 - Funding Guidelines
 - FAQs
 - Word document with project narrative questions (do not attach document in AmpliFund copy and paste from the document into AmpliFund fields)
 - Maps
 - Legislative and congressional districts
 - Value of match

Process Timeline*

- November 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) published
- Dec 15, 2023 Applications due
- February 2024 Internal decisions
- Feb April additional information requests, if needed
- April 2024- IDNR and NOAA approvals
- July 2024

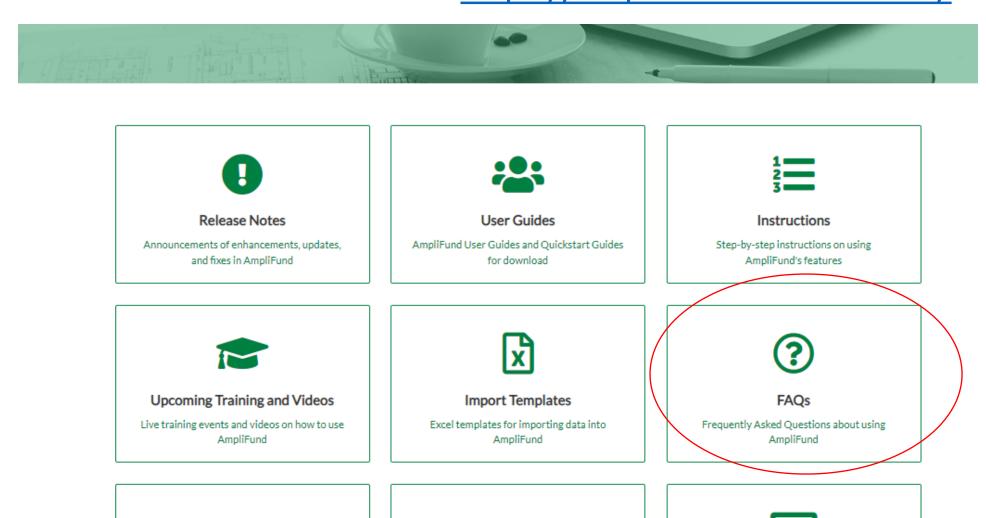
 NOAA grant to IDNR
- July Sep 2024 Subawards to grantees
- Sep 2024 Projects start
- *Subject to change

Few notes on AmpliFund...

- Once done with a section, click on "Mark Complete" in order to be able to submit the application. If you only click on "Save & Continue", it will save your progress but your application will not be ready for submittal
- Project Information Section Match is pre-set to 25% and will auto-fill "Cash Match Requirement" box based on your project cost. For projects requiring 1:1 match please provide your full match amounts in the "Cash Match Contributions" "In-Kind Contributions", and "Other Funding Contributions" boxes.
- We are not able to see what the applicants see!
- AmpliFund has extensive customer support

AmpliFund Support site

Resources available at: https://amplifund.zendesk.com/



AmpliFund Support site

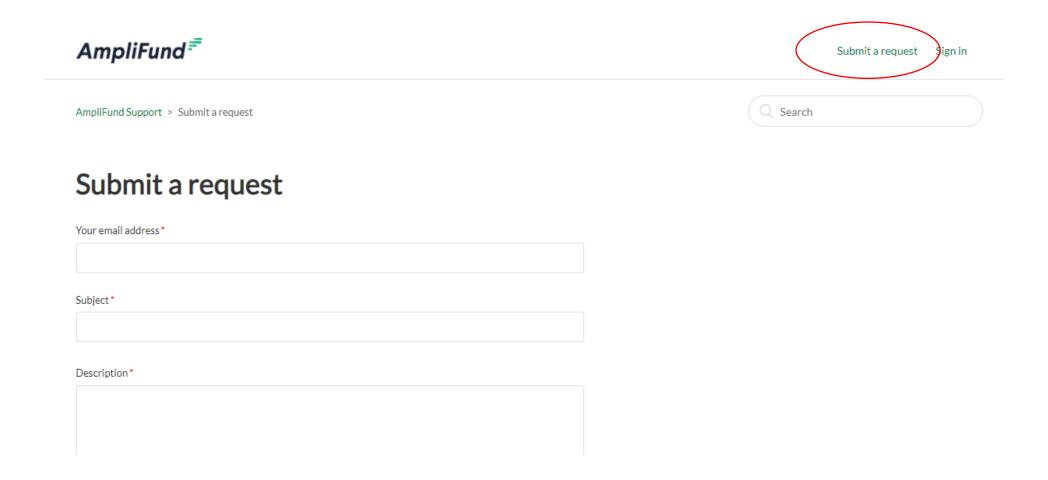
AmpliFund Support > FAQs > Applicant Portal

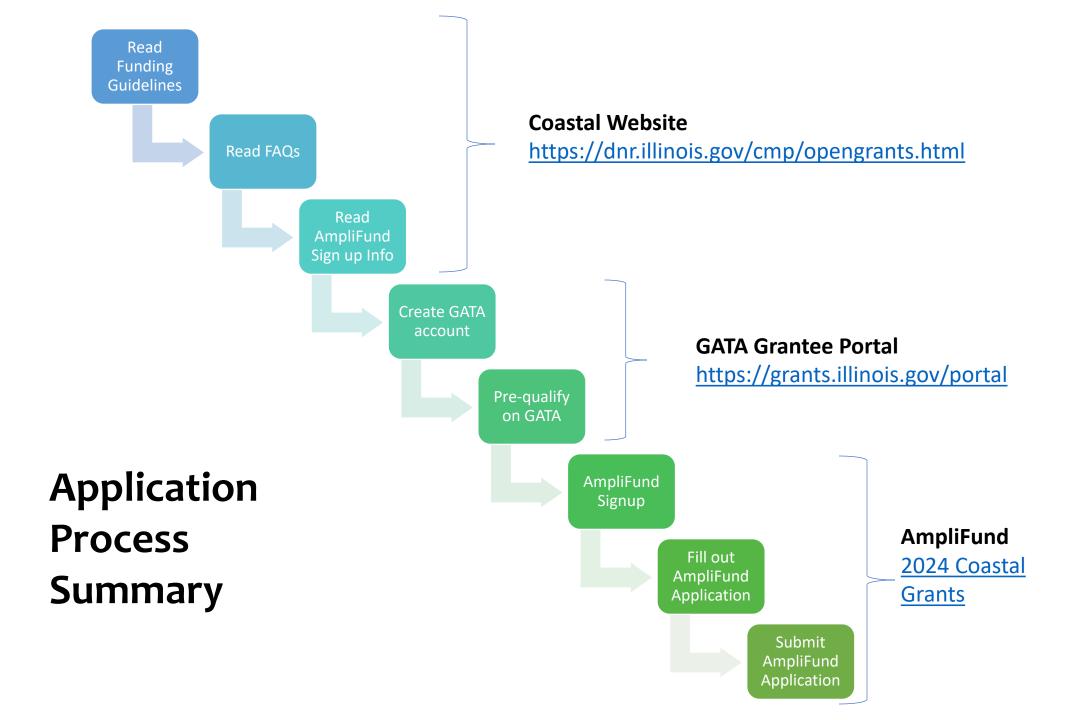
Applicant Portal

Applicant Portal Frequently Asked Questions
Applicant Portal Terminology
How do I link my account to my organization's account?
Who has access to the organization's applications?

AmpliFund Support

You can submit a ticket to get help with AmpliFund





Contact Information

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https://dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/opengrants.html

Questions?







