

Ohio Department of Higher Education Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative

On behalf of the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), the Ohio Sea Grant College Program and the University of Toledo, we are requesting pre-proposals for one- to two-year research projects from Ohio colleges and universities that provide: (1) strategies and tools to evaluate or mitigate HABs; (2) research assistance to guide wetland restoration projects to reduce nutrient and sediments; (3) research on manure, agricultural drainage practices and nutrient application methods; (4) evaluation of climate change effects on nutrient runoff; (5) watershed studies; (6) cost effectiveness analysis; (7) assessment of occurrence of cyanotoxins and health effects; and (8) evaluation of treatment technologies for smaller scale water treatment systems. Ultimately, this RFP is seeking research and innovation that will aid the management efforts of state agencies and will support Governor Mike DeWine's H2Ohio Initiative. We anticipate approximately \$3.8 million in funding to be available for this competition. Proposed project budgets will be evaluated/assessed based on the scope of work. Project funding will begin on 1 July 2021 and will end on 30 June 2023.

PRE-PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version on its web page ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit by **5:00 p.m. Thursday, 18 February 2021**.

FULL PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version on its web page ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit by **5:00 p.m. Thursday, 6 May 2021**.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES: Specific funding priorities have been provided by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and the Ohio Lake Erie Commission. These priorities will help agencies manage HABs and help guide the efforts supported by H2Ohio. Detailed priorities can be found online at: go.osu.edu/habripriorities or on the Ohio Sea Grant research funding website at: ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/funding. The HABRI Agency Advisory Board has occasionally recommended funding proposals that do not directly address a priority/issue highlighted by agencies. That said, if any investigator(s) plan to propose projects that are not listed priorities, they are encouraged to consult with Ohio Sea Grant (Dr. Chris Winslow) prior to submission of their proposal.

Due to the nature of this funding, successful proposals will include research and/or development in support of Ohio industry, commerce, and business (e.g., water treatment plants, agricultural producers, health care providers, etc.). Research and/or product innovation, development, and commercialization must include consultation with Ohio business and industry, state and local public entities and agencies, or collaboration with public and private education institutions, research organizations or institutions. Please keep in mind that the application and use of research results, as well as the societal and economic impacts, are also important considerations for this funding opportunity.

DEADLINES AND PLANNED SCHEDULE:

- **Thursday, 18 February 2021 by 5 p.m.** - Applicants should submit a single PDF pre-proposal by accessing ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit and uploading files.
- **Friday, 12 March 2021** - Researchers will be notified of the status of their pre-proposals (encouraged or discouraged from submitting a full proposal).
- **Thursday, 6 May 2021 by 5 p.m.** - Applicants should submit a PDF version of their full proposals by accessing ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit and uploading files.

- **Friday, 28 May 2021** - Researchers will be notified as to whether their proposal will be included in the proposal submitted to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

PRE-PROPOSALS: The pre-proposal process allows investigators to outline projects and receive feedback without spending the time required to prepare a full proposal. Successfully completing the pre-proposal process (i.e., being asked to submit a full proposal) does not, however, guarantee funding.

A PDF version of the pre-proposal (with all pieces of the pre-proposal in **one** PDF document) must be submitted to Ohio Sea Grant by **5 p.m. on Thursday, 18 February 2021**. Detailed instructions on proposal narrative and budget requirements can be found online at go.osu.edu/habriproposal or on the Ohio Sea Grant research funding website at: ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/funding.

Applicants must submit by accessing ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit and uploading files. Pre-proposals should include:

- A cover page of your own design that includes the project title, and the name, affiliation, address, telephone numbers, and email address of each investigator;
- A maximum of three pages of summary narrative explaining the objectives, methodology, and rationale for the proposed project (11 point, Times New Roman font preferred); required research summary form is available on our website at ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/funding;
- A budget form for each year of the project, each subcontract and a summary budget combining both years and all subcontracts; required budget form is available on our website at ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/funding;
- A detailed budget justification; and
- A two-page vita for each lead investigator.

FULL PROPOSALS: Full proposals will be due by **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 6 May 2021**. Guidelines for writing the full proposal will be released after the pre-proposal results are released and will require the following sections:

- Updated/revised “summary narrative” based on pre-proposal reviewer feedback;
- Budget forms and budget justification;
- Proposal (7-pages max): Rationale, objectives, methodology, timeline/project schedule, role of personnel, deliverables, education/outreach component, how research supports Ohio industry, commerce, and business, and literature cited;
- A two-page vita for each investigator/project member.

REVIEW PROCESS: A panel composed primarily of the members of our agency advisory committee (representatives from the Ohio Lake Erie Commission, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Department of Agriculture, and Ohio Department of Health) will review and rank pre-proposals for funding and determine which projects will move forward to the full proposal stage. It is possible that requests to modify projects and even combine projects will occur at this step. We do not anticipate requesting many more full proposals than can be funded.

The first investigator listed on each pre-proposal will be contacted with the results of the review by **Friday, 12 March 2021**. The same group is expected to evaluate full proposals.