

Nonprofit Organization Grants:

Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety
Recreational Boating Safety

Federal Grant Title: National Non-Profit Organization Grant Program
Federal Agency: United States Coast Guard
Funding Opportunity Number: DHS-USCG-2020-001
Type of Funding: Cooperative Agreement
CFDA Numbers: 97.012
CFDA Descriptions: Boating Safety Financial Assistance

Grantee: National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)
Grant Number: 3320FAN112015
Grant Title: Standardizing State Recreational Boating Safety Statutes & Regulations: NASBLA & the States
Period of Performance: 1 year grant

Award Amount: \$500,000.00

Summary:

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) is unique in bringing together nationally the states' recreational boating safety agencies for standardization and reciprocity in public policy development, communicating strategies, coordination, information sharing, education, and training -- critical functions since the states' recreational boating safety programs are responsible for the annual implementation of more than 95 percent of all boating safety expenditures nationwide. These include accident reporting, enforcing boating under the influence of alcohol and drugs laws, providing boater education, administering life jacket wear requirements and a range of other boating safety services.

This role in assisting the states was underscored in the February 2016 signing of an updated Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Coast Guard, as coordinator of the National Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program, and NASBLA, as the professional association of officials responsible for implementing RBS programs in the states. The agreement reaffirms NASBLA and the Coast Guard's continuing commitment to a productive set of relationships, services, and assistance that ultimately enhance the safety of recreational boaters of the United States.

It is in furtherance of this important role that NASBLA seeks a grant to partner with and support the states, the U.S. Coast Guard and the recreational boating safety (RBS) community in standardizing state recreational boating safety statutes, regulations and policies. NASBLA seeks

to accomplish this by aligning those interests with activities in three interrelated areas in which the association has demonstrated proficiency:

- **Model Best Practices and Encourage Uniformity:** Develop or update model state boating safety policies, standards, and best practices, and guidance for their administration and enforcement.
- **Inform:** Effectively and continuously communicate those model policies, programs, strategies, standards, and best practices to the states and other partners in the recreational boating community and,
- **Convene and Collaborate:** Provide hands-on coordination of state efforts and establish or maintain cooperative environments where state officials can discuss issues, resolutions, policies, and best practices, and improve their management of the RBS programs.

These activities will be conducted in support of critical, continuing strategic initiatives and new, broad priorities identified in the National Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Program 2017-2021 Strategic Plan

1. Cultivate a boating public that is better prepared to engage in safer boating behaviors,
2. Make better informed policy decisions by building and using highly integrated systems to gather and evaluate data from many sources, and
3. Nurture collaborative efforts among the stakeholders that benefit the boating public within the recreational boating safety community.

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