



Welcome!

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until the Q&A portion

IOOS Inflation Reduction Act Request for Applications Overview

October 17, 2023



Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Request for Applications (RFA)

Purpose: “Coastal Communities and Climate Resilience”

- **Coastal resilience services** to address community needs and priorities
- **\$100M to the RAs** through the non-competitive IRA RFA
 - Expand the reach of IOOS
 - Establishing and deepening partnerships
 - Providing equitable service delivery
 - Meaningful stakeholder engagement
 - Increase coastal resilience
 - Frontline and overburdened communities

TITLE IV—COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 40001. INVESTING IN COASTAL COMMUNITIES AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for fiscal year 2022, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$2,600,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, to provide funding through direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or technical assistance to coastal states (as defined in paragraph (4) of section 304 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453(4))), the District of Columbia, Tribal Governments, nonprofit organizations, local governments, and institutions of higher education (as defined in subsection (a) of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))), for the conservation, restoration, and protection of coastal and marine habitats, resources, Pacific salmon and other marine fisheries, to enable coastal communities to prepare for extreme storms and other changing climate conditions, and for projects that support natural resources that sustain coastal and marine resource dependent communities, marine fishery and marine mammal stock assessments, and for related administrative expenses.

Links to IRA RFA can be found at:
<https://ioos.noaa.gov/ira-resources-for-ras/>

- **Eligibility Requirements:**

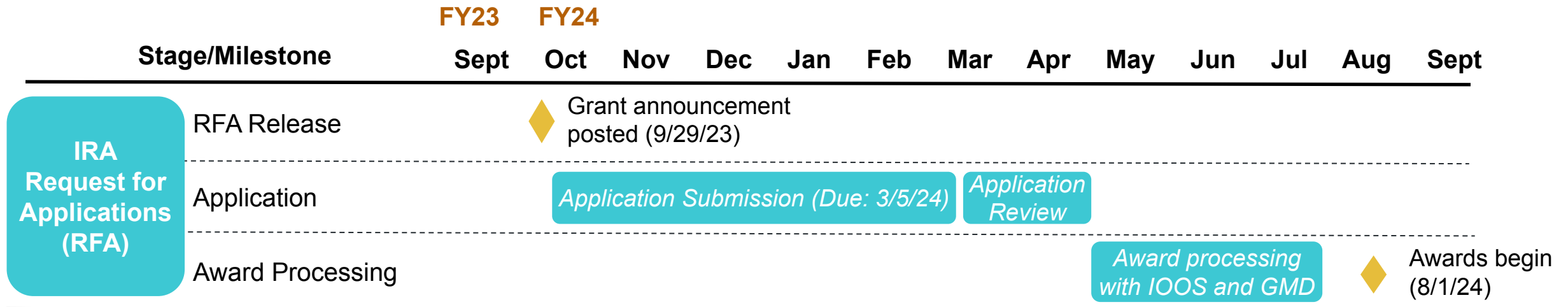
- Only IOOS RAs are eligible to apply
- No cost sharing or matching requirements
- No other criteria that affect eligibility



NOAA-NOS-IOOS-2024-2008213
NOAA Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
Department of Commerce

- **Proposals Due:** 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time on March 5, 2024
- **Mechanism:** Cooperative agreements
- **Project duration:** Up to 5 years
- **Funding:** Total available: \$100M across Topic Areas 1 & 2

RFA Timeline



IRA RFA Key Points

- **Specific Areas of Focus:**

- Increasing equitable service delivery
- Emphasizing stakeholder engagement
- Building new partnerships and/or deepening existing partnerships
- Improving program longevity and relevance, including through recapitalization and modernization
- Advancing ocean information network capacity
- Building tools and services to address societal challenges

- **Drivers:**

- Inflation Reduction Act
- NOAA and IOOS priorities

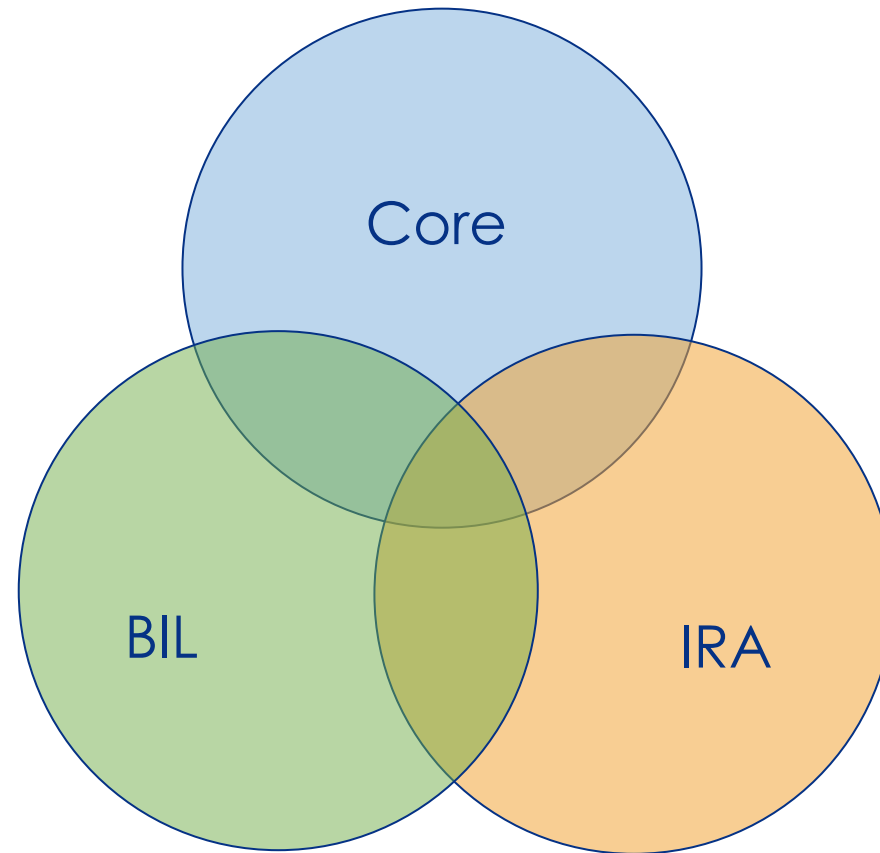
What's different about this opportunity?

- Not an extension of the RA regular 5-year cooperative agreements
- Not business as usual
- IOOS Office will engage with you as you develop your proposals
- Finite projects with lasting impacts
- Build on what's working and improve it
 - Expanded membership and audiences
 - More collaboration
 - An integrated national system

IRA RFA Complements Core and BIL

	Core	↔	BIL	↔	IRA
Activity	Observations, tools, modeling, O&M, governance		Recapitalization of infrastructure, assets		Equitable service delivery
Geographic range	Within the region		Within the region		Within and across regions
Outcome	Sustained coastal ocean information		Fortified, enhanced core assets		Coastal community climate resilience
End beneficiary	decision makers, managers, scientists		Regional system		frontline, overburdened, coastal communities
Project length	Ongoing		One-time infusion		Finite project, lasting impact

IRA RFA Complements Core and BIL



IRA RFA Deeper Dive



IRA RFA Basics - Topic Areas 1 & 2

	Topic Area 1	↔	Topic Area 2
\$ amount	\$55 M		\$45 M
Applications	1 per Regional Association		Optional, separate, 1 RA leads
Geographic range	Within an RA		Across multiple or all RAs
Activities	Individual RA efforts		Collaborative efforts across RAs
Strengthen	RA longevity & relevance		Pan-regional, national integration
End beneficiary	Coastal communities particularly underserved, frontline, & overburdened communities		
Goals	Improve coastal resilience Advance equitable service delivery		

IRA Topic Area 2 Components

A successful proposal will address at least one of the following:

1. Improve, link and leverage capacity to address coastal resilience at the pan-regional and/or national scale
 - See Topic Area 2.1.a-g for a non-exhaustive list of potential projects of interest and the website for supplementary descriptions
 2. Establish and/or expand service delivery and stakeholder engagement to communities that are disproportionately overburdened, underserved, economically distressed, and facing coastal and climate impacts, including indigenous groups and tribes.
- ❖ Topic Area 2 webinar: November 6, 2:00-3:00 ET

Terminology

Take note of the following terms that are defined in Section I.A of the RFA:

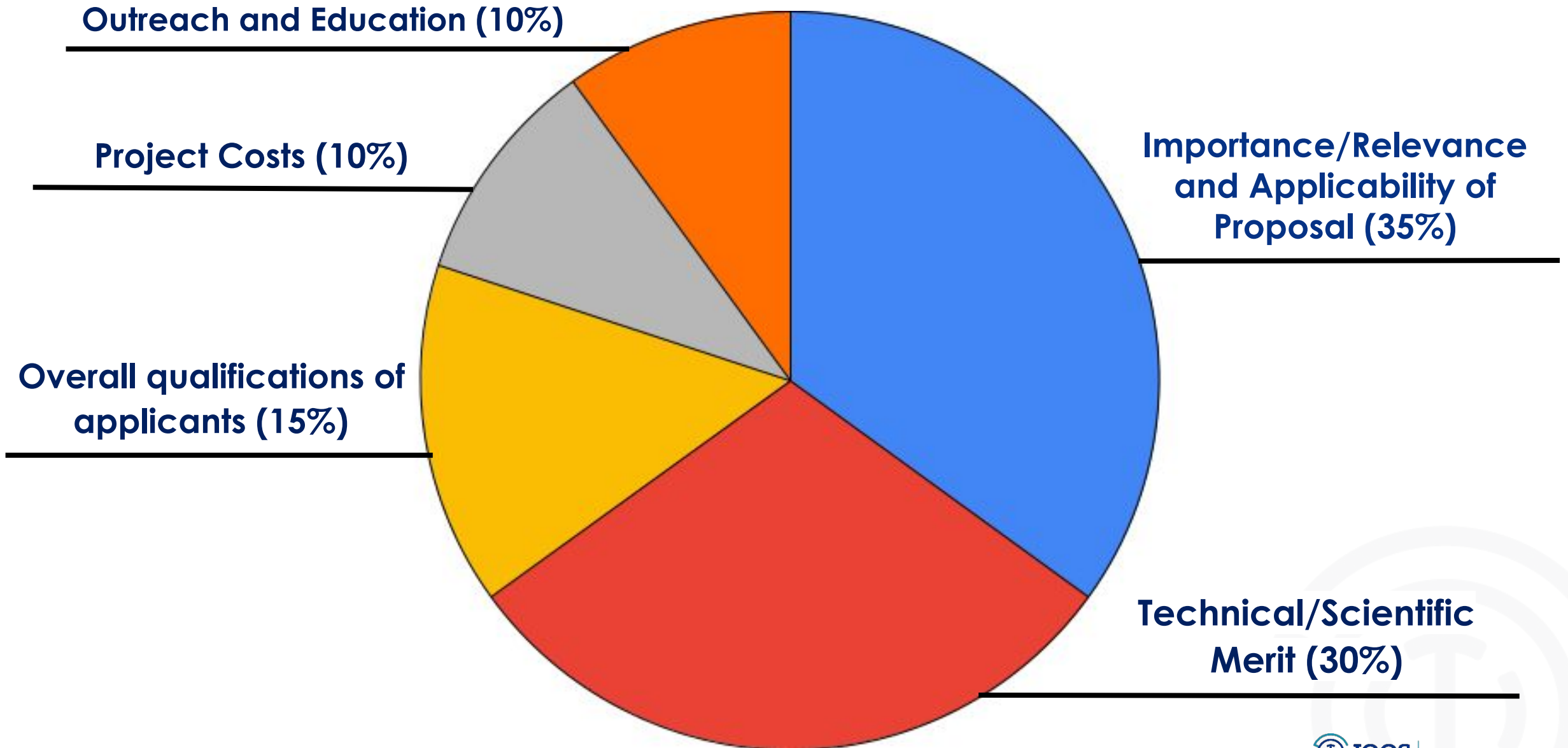
- Coastal resilience
- Environmental justice
- Equitable service delivery
- Equity
- Frontline communities
- Overburdened communities
- Underserved communities



Required Application Items

- Standard Form (SF) 424
- Title Page
- Project Summary
- Project Description and
 - Milestone Schedule
- Data Management Plan
- References Cited
- SF-424A
- Budget Narrative
- Resumes
- Letters of Support
- CD-511
- SF-424B
- SF-LLL (If applicable)
- NEPA Questionnaire

IRA RFA Evaluation Criteria for Topic Areas 1 & 2



Advice to Applicants

- **Review the RFA**
 - Spend time to understand:
 - overall principles and goals
 - elements distinguishing Topic Areas 1 and 2
 - Pay attention to the definitions and evaluation criteria
- Work with the IOOS Office as you develop your proposals.
- For each activity, ask yourself:
 - Is this a better fit for Core or BIL purposes?
 - Does this include equitable service delivery; and frontline and overburdened communities; and coastal climate resilience?
 - Does the proposal include finite projects that have lasting impacts?

Questions?

General questions: ioos.regions@noaa.gov

Listed Topic Area 2 projects: POCs named in [project descriptions](#)

Review the IOOS IRA RFA webpage:
<https://ioos.noaa.gov/ira-resources-for-ras/>

Questions Submitted in Advance

Q1: Where can I find information to help me identify frontline, underserved, or overburdened communities?

Q2: What happens when we don't know underserved or frontline communities?
How can we engage with them if we don't know who they are?

Q3: Are To Be Determined (TBD) projects permitted, so as to allow for engagement to inform and fully define a project?

Q4: What types of projects is the Office interested in for Topic Area 2?

Q5: How will you evaluate the Topic Area 2 proposals?

Q6: Would the program office entertain one proposal for Topic 2?