

Funding Opportunity: Office of Naval Research (ONR) Releases National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) BAA

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC – August 27, 2024

The Department of Defense (DOD) Office of Naval Research (ONR) released the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for 2024. On behalf of the NOPP, ONR is seeking proposals that aims to promote ocean knowledge as a means for supporting national security and general research to sustain U.S. resources. The NOPP is jointly funded by several federal agencies in addition to ONR including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and others. The program aims to address cross-cutting priorities related to oceans and occasionally releases other funding opportunities depending on the needs of the funding agencies. This year's BAA will focus on two overarching research topics:

- **Internal Wave Energy, Mixing, and Interactions in the Ocean:**
 - This research topic continues efforts laid out in the [2022 BAA](#), and will focus on evaluating existing global ocean models, to develop and improve their ability to translate data assimilated for ocean models and forecasts. The 2024 BAA especially notes the progress made by the proposals awarded through the 2022 announcement, and encourage continued partnerships with other countries researching the field. The stated goals of the project include, among others, “understand the generation, propagation, and dissipation mechanisms for oceanic internal gravity waves” and “enabling seamless, skillful modeling/forecasts of oceanic flows.” Proposers are encouraged to leverage current experiments and methods for field testing.
- **(New Topic) Low-Cost, Air Deployable 400m Profiling CTD Floats for investigating sub-mesoscale eddies:**
 - This research topic invites design studies and demonstration capabilities for new, low-cost sensor packages designed to investigate the horizontal and subsurface structure of “sub-mesoscale eddies,” or large underwater currents. The goal of the topic is to further advance observational capacity of the ocean environment, as the proposed sensors should increase visibility of changing oceanic conditions and map “changes of temperature and salinity with depth.” These sensors should be disposable, and capable of airborne deployment and continued monitoring of the float.

Due Dates: Full proposals for both topics are due by **3:00 PM EST, on November 22, 2024.**

Award Information: \$23 million will be made available for awards under this solicitation over three years. Topic 1 will fund up to three awards for proposals with a focus on modeling capabilities, with an individual award amount of up to \$500,000, and will also fund up to four awards for proposals with a focus on field work, with an individual award amount of up to \$1,500,000. Both awards will be made over a period of **three years**. Topic 2 anticipates funding up to three awards, with an individual award amount of up to \$175,000 over **one year**, for a total award amount of \$525,000.

Eligibility: This solicitation requires collaborative efforts, as proposals addressing either research topic involve partnerships between at least two of three sector categories: academia, government, and industry. Proposals for additional funding for existing projects and applications for new awards are eligible to compete. While Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) are not eligible to receive awards under this announcement, University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs) are eligible to submit proposals unless prohibited by their contract.

Additional Sources and Information:

- The full solicitation can be found on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) under the opportunity number “[N0001424SB003](https://www.grants.gov).”
- More information about NOPP can be found here: <https://www.noaa.gov/ocean-science-and-technology-subcommittee/national-oceanographic-partnership-program>.