

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-2021-001
Type of Funding: Cooperative Agreement
CFDA Numbers: 97.012
CFDA Descriptions: Boating Safety Financial Assistance

Grantee: American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC)
Grant Number: 3321FAN201102
Grant Title: FY 2021 Voluntary Standards Development
Period of Performance: 1 year grant

Award Amount: \$341,000.00

Summary:

The American Boat & Yacht Council, Inc (ABYC) seeks to fulfill the tasks set out in the US Coast Guard's (USCG) FY21 Nonprofit Grant Proposal Notice of Funds Availability Areas of Interest 1. Standards Development. Under this grant cycle, 18 Standards will be under the review process.

Develop and Carry Out – ABYC will utilize all of its resources to foster a dynamic and effective standards writing and review process. The process will be populated by those individuals that are both materially interested and possess the knowledge and desire to participate in safety oriented, technically sound voluntary safety standards. Resources provided by this grant guarantee that individuals wishing to participate in this process will not be prevented from participating due to financial barriers.

Recreational Boats and Associated Equipment – Content of ABYC standards positively impacts construction and maintenance of recreational boats and associated equipment. These standards exist to both extend and enhance federal regulations. Working together to improve safety based on accident metrics and changing technology, activities funded by this grant will result in targeted and industry-accepted practices that, through outreach to manufacturers, will improve boating safety and the overall boating experience, both in the US and across the globe.

Specifics – As data and trends are continuously analyzed, specific items as noted below and in the notice of funds availability, will be addressed.

Lithium Ion Battery Technology – The need for more power onboard and the desire for a reduction in environmental impact has led to reliance on benefits of the lithium ion battery. The work product of this grant will impact the construction and management of this budding and beneficial technology.

Electric Boats – In concert with the above, both battery and propulsion technologies are vastly different on electric boats versus traditional gasoline or diesel-powered boats. Several areas in the Federal Regulations and the Standards of ABYC require examination to ensure that areas such as capacity, flotation, and firefighting are adequate for electric powerplants.

Environmental – The environmental conditions on board boats has changed. Construction methods have improved water tightness, temperature control, humidity, and even shock and vibration. The environmental considerations within the standards (e.g., low storage temperature, engine room operating temperature, ambient temperature) are overdue for review against current real-world examples. Only when a manufacturer of equipment understands fully the environment for which they are designing can a component truly be suitable and safe for its intended use. Through a robust, inclusive standards process, manufacturers will become aware of critical safety conscious changes that will improve the overall safety of recreational boating.

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