

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-2022-001
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: 70Z02322MO0005078

Grant Title: Standardizing State Recreational Boating Safety Statutes & Regulations: NASBLA & the States

Period of Performance: 3 year grant

Award Amount: \$500,000.00

Summary:

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) seeks a grant to partner with and support the states, the U.S. Coast Guard and the recreational boating safety (RBS) community by fostering standardization and reciprocity among state boating safety statutes, regulations, and rules, and how they are administered and enforced with special focus on incident reporting, boating under the influence of alcohol and drugs, boater education, and life jacket wear requirements. NASBLA, through the states and a well-established volunteer policy committee structure, will develop or update model state boating safety policies, standards, and best practices as well as guidance for their administration and enforcement. NASBLA will effectively and continuously communicate those model policies, programs, strategies, standards, and best practices to the states and other partners in the recreational boating community through multiple outlets, both virtual and in-person.

NASBLA will facilitate hands-on coordination of state efforts and the establishment of cooperative environments, to include workshops and conferences where state officials can discuss issues, resolutions, policies, and best practices, and improve their management of the RBS programs.

NASBLA will maintain an up-to-date and comprehensive online guide to state recreational boating safety laws and regulations that can be modified upon notification or discovery of change.

All of these efforts will be compatible with other state boating safety efforts and promote RBS program effectiveness, the use of national education standards, and improved administration of USCG-approved vessel numbering and incident reporting systems. The construction and timeline of this program allows sufficient time to accomplish the proposed goals while also providing the environment to respond to other critical topics as they arise.

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 incident 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. The success of this project directly impacts the states' ability to collaborate and standardize best practices for state recreational boating safety programs and the impact they have on the greater boating public.

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