



Great Lakes
Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET)
2022 funding opportunity
June 23, 2021 informational webinar
slide presentation

Presentation Overview

1. What is “B-WET”
2. What is a “MWEE”
3. Program Priorities
4. Application Information
5. Evaluation Criteria
6. Review Process Timeline
7. Questions

For further information about the Great Lakes B-WET

program go to: <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/bwet/greatlakes/>



What is B-WET?



The NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) national program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning in the K-12 environment. Projects provide meaningful watershed educational experiences (MWEEs) for students and related professional development for teachers.

For more information go to:

www.NOAA.gov/office-education/bwet

For further NOAA Great Lakes regional information go to:

https://www.regions.noaa.gov/great-lakes/index.php/great_lakes-restoration-initiative/foundations/great-lakes-bay-education-and-training-b-wet-program/

B-WET exists in seven regions:

1. California
2. Chesapeake Bay
3. Hawai'i
4. Gulf of Mexico
5. New England
6. Pacific Northwest
7. **Great Lakes**

Please note: Great Lakes regional grants are funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, for more information go to:

<https://www.glri.us/>



Four of the seven B-WET regions are coordinated by or in partnership with the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.



National Marine Sanctuary System

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The network includes a system of 15 national marine sanctuaries and Papahānaumokuākea and Rose Atoll marine national monuments.

What is B-WET?



- The primary delivery is through competitive grants.
- Eligible applicants are K-12 schools and school systems, institutions of higher education, community-based and nonprofit organizations, state or local government agencies, interstate agencies, and Indian tribal governments.
- Great Lakes B-WET region supports projects serving students and educators in the Great Lakes watershed in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin.
- Great Lakes B-WET region applicants may request funds ranging from \$30,000 - **\$80,000** (for funding opportunity: NOAA-NOS-ONMS-2022-2006929)
- For Great Lakes B-WET grants, project timelines should be between and **12-18 months**

What is a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience? (MWEE)

A MWEE consists of three components:



***1. Essential
Elements***



***2. Supporting
Practices***



***3. Professional
Development
Practices***

MWEE Component 1. Essential Elements



Issue definition

(research, driving question, investigation)



Outdoor field experiences

(multiple, school grounds and/or parks/natural areas)



Synthesis & conclusions

(iterative, communicate to audience/s)



Stewardship actions

(watershed restoration, everyday choices, community engagement, civic action)

MWEE Component 2. Supporting Practices



Active teacher support

(support content knowledge – see 3. Teacher Professional Development for specifics)



Classroom integration

(not something extra – embed into what's already happening in the classroom)



Local context

(use local environment and community as context for learning)



Sustained learning experience

(multiple experiences that build on each other)

MWEE Component 3. Teacher Professional Development



Increases
knowledge and
awareness of
environmental
issues



Models MWEE
framework



Allows for
adequate
instructional
time



Provides
teacher support
& incentives



Adheres to
local
guidelines

Program Priorities



Projects combining long-term, classroom-integrated Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) for students and teacher professional development.

Great Lakes B-WET seeks proposals that combine professional development for teachers coupled with MWEEs for students that are fully supported in the classroom by their teachers, ensuring that concepts of watershed education are fully reinforced throughout the school year. Proposals must address the specific elements and types of activities that define a MWEE.



Program Priorities



All proposals should demonstrate a connection to the Great Lakes basin through the watershed system so that students understand how their actions can affect the Great Lakes ecosystem through their local watershed.

**Proposals should address the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan
III Objective 5.1 to:**

“Educate the next generation about the Great Lakes ecosystem.”

For more information about the GLRI Action Plan go to:

<https://www.epa.gov/glri>

Program Priorities



Projects should:

- Show prior experience in working in the Great Lakes region and/or show prior experience with Great Lakes regional issues
- Or demonstrate partnerships with local organizations in the Great Lakes region that have prior experience on proposed projects or regional issues.
- Demonstrate (multiple) partnerships, especially with local organizations in the Great Lakes region

Learning and stewardship should be in places that students live, grow, and play, and they should rely extensively on hands-on, inquiry-based experiential teaching and learning that teach students to draw on multiple disciplines and ways of knowing as they consider and take action on local stewardship needs.

The Great Lakes watershed environment can provide genuine, locally relevant sources of knowledge that can be used to help advance student learning skills across the entire school curriculum.



Program Priorities

Universal elements for all proposals:

1. Involve external sharing and communication
2. Demonstrate partnerships
3. Be aligned to state and/or local learning standards
4. Demonstrate alignment to the NOAA Education Plan found here at:
<https://www.noaa.gov/education/explainers/2021-2040-noaa-education-strategic-plan>
5. Be aligned to environmental literacy principles, as appropriate: “Great Lakes Literacy Principles” - found here at: <https://www.cgll.org/for-educators/great-lakes-literacy-principles/> - and/or “Climate Literacy: The Essential Principles of Climate Science” - found here at: <https://www.climate.gov/teaching/essential-principles-climate-literacy/essential-principles-climate-literacy>



NOAA Resources to support your project:

- **For NOAA in your backyard, Great Lakes resources go to:**
<https://www.noaa.gov/education/noaa-in-your-backyard/great-lakes>
- **For Chesapeake B-WET region - MWEE 101 and Bay-Backpack MWEE resources go to:**
<https://www.baybackpack.com/>
- **For NOAA Office of Education resources go to:**
<https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/grants/noaa-assets>

Application Information



Applicants and recipients are required to continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency.

(See Section IV. C. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM) p. 24 in the *Notice of Funding Opportunity*)



Application Information

Electronic applications must be received by
11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 9, 2021
to be considered for funding.

Apply online through:
<https://www.grants.gov/>

Use of Grants.gov requires an advance registration process that
may take a few days or several weeks.

Keep in mind that it may take Grants.gov up to two business
days to validate or reject a submitted application.

Application Information



Application Content Requirements

The following Federal Forms are required and must be submitted with applications in Grants.gov.

- **Standard Form 424** - Application for Federal Assistance
- **Standard Form 424A** - Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs
- **Standard Form 424B**- Assurances - Non-Construction Programs
- **Standard Form LLL**-Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)
- **Form CD-511**- Certification Regarding Lobbying

Application Information



PDF format including four files:

- 1. Project Summary** (1 page limit)
- 2. Project Description** (15 page limit)
- 3. Budget table and Budget narrative**
(including sub-award details, and the negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, if applicable)
- 4. Supplemental information** (all together)
 - Resumes
 - Logic Model
 - Letters of Commitment/Partnerships
 - Literature Cited
 - NEPA questionnaire (if applicable)

Please note: refer to 2022 Great Lakes Bay-Watershed Education and Training Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity announcement NOAA-NOS-ONMS-2022-2006929

for full details of application package and requirements including format.

Evaluation Criteria



- 1. Importance/Relevance and Applicability of Proposal to the Program Goals – 25 points**
- 2. Technical/scientific merit – 40 points**
- 3. Overall qualifications of the applicants – 15 points**
- 4. Project costs – 10 points**
- 5. Outreach and education – 10 points**

Please note: refer to 2022 Great Lakes Bay-Watershed Education and Training Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity announcement NOAA-NOS-ONMS-2022-2006929 for full details of evaluation criteria

Evaluation Criteria



#1 - 25 points **Importance/Relevance to Program Goals**

- Demonstrates Connection to the watershed
- Demonstrates Project need
- Alignment to educational learning standards
- Alignment to NOAA and appropriate environmental literacy resources
- Alignment with Program Priorities (& universal elements)

Evaluation Criteria



Evaluation Criteria #2 - 40 points Technical/scientific merit

- Clear project objectives
- Target audience is defined
- Adherence to MWEE principles, elements, and practices
- Clear evaluation plan



Evaluation Criteria



#3 - 15 points

Overall qualifications of applicants

- Experience
- Partners

Evaluation Criteria



#4 - 10 points Project costs

- Reasonable
- Direct programming
- Outreach and education

***NOTE: NO MATCH IS REQUIRED FOR FUNDING. Voluntary cost-sharing DOES NOT IMPACT EVALUATION SCORING. Also, please round budget amounts to nearest dollar!**

Evaluation Criteria



#5 - 10 points Outreach and education

Does the project involve mechanisms for significant external sharing and communication about the project by students, teachers, or project staff?

Does the project propose community events that engage parents, other community members, etc.?

Does the project propose peer-to-peer sharing for teacher and/or students (e.g., inservice days, school assemblies)?

Will the project be publicized at conferences and to the media/social media, etc.?



Timeline of Review



- September - October 2021 - Technical Review
- October - November 2021 - Panel Review
- December 2021 - March 2022 - Negotiations with applicants whose proposals are recommended for funding
- December 2021 - January 2022 - Notification if not recommended
- April-May, 2022 - Grants Awarded

Project start date should not begin before April 1, 2022.



Questions?

Sarah Waters

Great Lakes B-WET program coordinator

sarah.a.waters@noaa.gov

(989) 884-6204

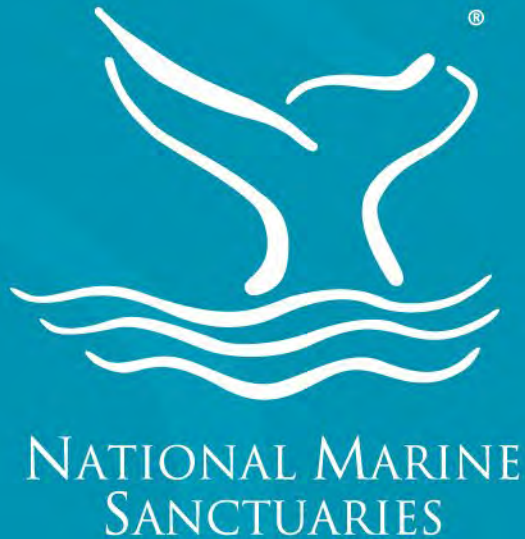
Website:

<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/bwet/greatlakes/>

Facebook: @greatlakesbwet

<https://www.facebook.com/greatlakesbwet/>

National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education>