

North Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Program

Phase 3: General Applicant Information

1. Where can I go to find information about how to apply to the RCCP Phase 3 RFA?

For general information about the Phase 3 Engineering & Design, we encourage you to review the Request for Applications, webinar recording, and other materials on our website:

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-adaptation-and-resiliency/nc-resilient-coastal-communities-program>

2. What is the source of funding for this grant?

DCM has received funding from the non-reoccurring State Legislature and a grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to develop and begin implementing the RCCP.

3. What is NFWF?

The National Coastal Resilience Fund was created by Congress in 2018. NFWF administers the NCRF as an annual grant competition, subject to Congressional appropriations and the availability of funds.

4. Where can I find examples of previously funded projects?

This is a new program and funding source.

5. Will a recording of the webinar be made available?

Yes, a recording is available on DCM's Website for the RCCP.

6. Will the slides be available?

Yes, the slides are available on DCM's Website for the RCCP.

7. Will funding be available through this program next year? DCM anticipates releasing a Request for Applications later this year for another round of Phases 1 and 2 of the RCCP.

8. Is the \$45,000 per project a maximum award amount?

It is not a maximum award amount; it is an anticipated average award amount.

9. How much is expected to be awarded?

DCM anticipates awarding the total of \$1.2 million for local engineering and design projects in FY 2022-23 if there are enough meritorious projects to do so.

10. Can non-governmental organizations apply if they were involved in the RCCP CAT? Only communities located in the [20 CAMA counties](#) are eligible to apply.

11. What is the process DCM will take to determining community eligibility for RCCP Phase 3 if a community has not completed the Phase 1 & 2 of this program?

We will ask you to fill out the Resilience Strategy Matrix on [page 14 of the RFA](#). We are looking to see that you have gone through a similar resilience planning process to the RCCP. We ask that you provide the name and page number of the document where you think meets the planning criteria. DCM will review the existing documents and determine if they meet the Resilience Strategy requirements.

12. Can you provide some examples of shovel-ready projects or an ordinance or policy that would be competitive?

Potential projects could include living shorelines, coastal habitat restoration (e.g., salt marshes, mangroves, etc.), installation of permeable pavement, greenways, wetland restoration, stormwater parks, rain gardens, green roofs, rainwater harvesting, green streets, stormwater ordinance or policy, floodplain management, or development policies, etc.

13. Does the ordinance of policy need to incorporate nature-based components?

If your community is in one of the twelve Hurricane Florence declared counties (see map on [page 10 of the RFA](#)) then you are required to submit a project that includes a nature-based component. For an ordinance or policy, we need to know how the document will enhance your community's resilience or possibly encourage NBS in the community. If you are not in a Hurricane Florence declared county, you do not have to include a nature-based component, however we encourage you to.

15. Can you give examples of how a project can have transferability to other coastal area municipalities and counties?

Policy/Ordinances or provides water quality benefits to downstream areas.

16. Can you describe the process DCM will use to select and evaluate projects?

See RFA package [page 5](#) for criteria DCM will consider selecting projects, to ensure your project is competitive please provide information relevant to these criteria in your application.

17. Can grant awardees can use their own procurement process to procure a firm to do engineering, design, permitting? They won't be required to use a firm from a specific pool of consultants/contractors? That is correct. Awarded communities will enter into a contract with DEQ, and then will be able to post an RFP and follow their own procurement process to select a firm to complete the work.

18. If a community submits multiple projects, can they request \$45,000 for both projects? Applicants may submit applications for more than one project and request \$45,000 for each but must indicate funding priority and submit a separate (and complete) application for each project.

19. What are the pros and cons to being a community that was awarded Phase I and 2 assistance versus one that did not? Communities that participated in Phases I and 2 of the program worked with a contractor hired by DCM to create a Resilience Strategy that consists of a community's resilience vision and goals, community engagement strategy, review of existing plans, mapping of critical assets and hazards, a risk and vulnerability assessment and a project portfolio. This information can be used to complete the Phase 3 Application. A community that did not participate in Phases I and 2 can still apply for Phase 3 funding but will need to illustrate how they meet the planning requirements of Phases I and 2 by completing the Resilience Strategy Matrix on [page 14](#) of the application.

20. How specific do we need to be on the Project portfolio rankings? (i.e., specific # or just note it was in the top 5?) We want to know how the community prioritizes the project. Therefore, yes, we would like to know how and why the project is ranked the way it is.

21. What if the project (flood damage prevention ordinance update, for example) was not ranked, as it was already planned for completion? You can submit a project that was not ranked, but we will want to know why you did not submit a project from the priority list.

22. Does the 1.2 million funding for the coastal program or the other resilience programs initiated since the coastal programs? The \$1.2 million is specifically for Phase 3 of the NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program.

23. If two communities collaborate on an application, are they limited to \$45,000 or can they submit for \$90,000? Communities that collaborate on an application can request more than \$45,000, so yes, they could request \$90,000.

24. Several communities have identified stormwater asset mapping as a high priority- has there been any discussion of getting funding for these projects in future phases/rounds of the RCCP? Asset mapping is not an eligible project for Phase 3 funding, as some of that mapping should have been completed in the planning phases of the program. Phase 3 of the RCCP is prioritizing projects that moves a community closer to shovel-ready status.

25. If we have potential but not secured match, can we still indicate that on the application? We do not recommend indicating a match on the application that is not secured yet.