
SECOORA Solicitation for Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System Projects Question and Answers

Question: Is the data management plan included in the 3-page proposal limit?

Answer: Please refer to page 2 of the solicitation. There is a list of items that are required proposal elements, but they do not count towards the 3-page limit. https://secoora.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/SECOORA_mini-proposal_RFP_Final.pdf

Question: Are indirect costs included in the \$30,000 funding limit?

Answer: The funds SECOORA is using are NOAA funds so we cannot dictate IDC rates. Applicants must use their university negotiated IDC rate for the proposal. The IDC is part of the budget.

Question: CVs are requested only for the lead PI. Should the co-PI also submit a CV?

Answer: Please submit a 2-page CV for both the PI and Co-PI.

Question: Does all of the project work had to be completed in one year (field work through final report) or can the field work be completed within the 12-month period and the final report follow?

Answer: SECOORA would like for projects to be complete in one year, but if a project PI has a compelling reason for needing longer to submit the final report (i.e. for a full year of data collection) then please outline the timeframe for the work in the deliverables and timeline section of the project description.

Question: We have the capability of obtaining data as both a fixed station and as a mobile station. Is there preference on SECOORA's part for one over the other? And any comments on the sampling preference (monthly, weekly, etc.)?

Answer: The temporal and spatial sampling resolution should be based on the research need. SECOORA does not have a specific sampling preference. SECOORA does have the ability to ingest and visualize data from fixed platforms and moving platforms. Additionally, we can work with both real-time and archived data. SECOORA routinely manages and visualizes data from gliders and Wavegliders. Data for these platforms are on the SECOORA data portal.

Question: What is the expected commitment and role of the endorsing user/stakeholder? Do they need to be in the same geographical area as us?

Answer: The stakeholder can be outside of the SECOORA area; however, the stakeholder should have a need for the data you are collecting and specify how they will use the data. Additionally, a letter of support from the stakeholder that outlines how they will be involved in the project and how they will use the data/results is also useful.

Question: Can we submit real time data and would raw data (minimum QA/QC) be accepted? Or would a monthly submission of data comply with your requirements?

Answer: If funded, your project team will work with the SECOORA data management team to set up metadata for you project. If you would like to submit your data in real-time, we can ingest the raw data (minimal QA/QC) and visualize the data as it is being collected. Once the instruments have been recovered, and all of the data downloaded, processed, and full QA/QC complete, we would work with you to import this data to the SECOORA data portal.

Question: Are there any further "conditions" on any equipment bought with the award monies? That is, if we buy any "sensor", would this sensor be considered "our property" there onward or would we be locked into only being used for SECOORA's mission?

Answer: If you purchase a sensor for this project, the sensor remains with you and can be used for any future project for which it is needed.

Question: in terms of "ownership" of the data collected with this project, do we "own the rights to this data"? And as far as after the commitment to this award is fulfilled, would we be able to continue collecting data in the same area or "station" and retain ownership of the data sets or would we be required to continue submitting the data to SECOORA.

Answer: Any data collected for this project must be shared with SECOORA. All projects funded with federal funds (which SECOORA is using for this award) must make all data collected open and freely available. After the project is complete, any data collected from future missions belong to the PI. If you would like to share data from your instrumentation with SECOORA in the future, we are happy to continue working with you to do so, but you are not obligated to share data except for the project for which SECOORA funding is used.

Question: Would there be any future funded grants/solicitations/contracts similar in scope for data collection/monitoring that we may participate in?

Answer: SECOORA does offer grant opportunities and they are posted on the funding opportunities webpage page (<https://secoora.org/funding-opportunities/>).