

# 2026 MCD Small Grants Program

## Applicant Guidance Webinar

### Q&A

Q Can PI request reimbursement for major equipment purchased before the award date?

A No, purchases made prior to the award date are not eligible for reimbursement. All purchases must be made during the award period to receive reimbursement.

Q With regards to the evaluation criterion for partnerships (5 points), can the applicant simply list those partners to maximize their score?

A The application includes a section to list major partners and collaborators.

Q Is it necessary to provide letters of support from partners with the application?

A Applicants can include letters of support from partners, if they choose. Recommend applicants use a strategic approach and discretion to make decisions about letters of support requests.

Q Do applicants need to supply optional letters of support to earn these points?

A Letters of support will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and reviewers will take several factors into consideration when assigning this score.

Q There is a bug in the application file that does not allow me to enter up to 75 words - Statement of Project Objectives section. A similar problem was observed in Project Abstract section.

A NYSG will review the templates and resolve this issue. New file version will be uploaded to the website featuring a recent date stamp.

Q In which budget category (if any), may we include the expense of boat ownership, such as maintenance and storage, on a pro-rata basis as it equates to the boat's use?

A This expense should be entered under Other Costs category in the budget.

Q The grant period is a year beginning in August. Would it be OK to request funding for a project to be carried out entirely in 2027, finishing by end of July (2027)? Is there a preference for projects that take the full 12 months?

A Yes, projects conducted within this timespan are eligible, and there is no requirement for project to be implemented continuously over 12 months.

Q Would waterfront stewardship activities such as litter clean ups and horticulture work be acceptable for this grant?

A In principle, litter cleanups on the shore would be considered. Horticulture work is vague terminology and NYSG cannot answer this question.

#####