

Shore and Harbor Planning Grant

Program Summary



Maine Coastal Program & Maine Department of Marine Resources



Purpose

The Shore and Harbor Planning Grant funds planning efforts for activities or infrastructure at public waterfronts. It helps communities increase their resilience and achieve the goals described in the Maine Climate Council's [Maine Won't Wait: A Four-Year Plan for Climate Action](#). These funds can be used to plan for shore access, improve harbor management, or plan for the impact of future conditions – including sea level rise, storm surge, and flooding – on public waterfront infrastructure. Communities that use the Shore and Harbor Planning Grant to identify design options for waterfront infrastructure projects are often well prepared to apply for construction funding from state or federal sources. The maximum award is \$50,000.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include municipalities, unorganized townships, regional planning organizations, and Tribal Governments. Partnerships are strongly encouraged and applicants must be in [Maine's Coastal Zone](#). Communities do not need to have a comprehensive plan to be eligible. The applicant must be the financial agent for the project. However, the proposed project may be completed by partners and/or consultants working through a subcontract awarded by the applicant.

When can I apply?

The Shore and Harbor Grant opens yearly in February. Funding is for approximately 1.5 years (summer of application year to the end of the following year). For more details and application guidelines, see the [Program Statement](#).

Examples of past projects

[Example Projects, Maps, and Funding Summary | Department of Marine Resources \(maine.gov\)](#)

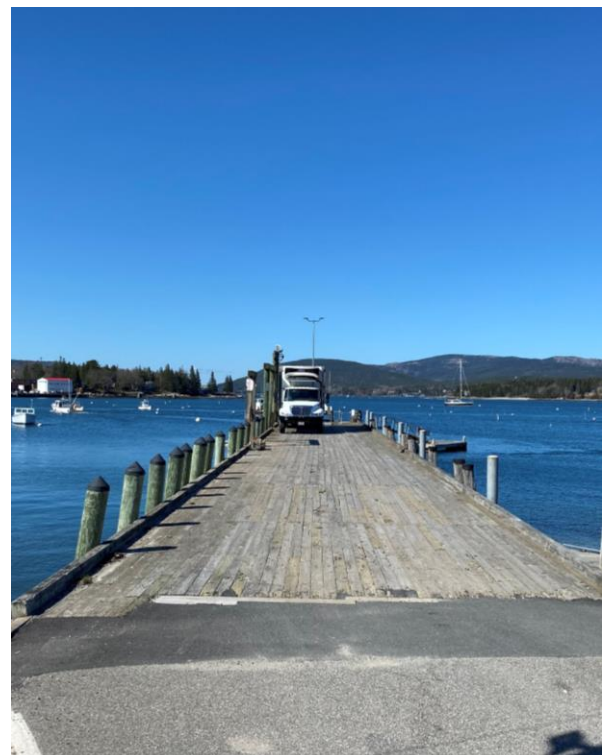
Considerations

Funds may not be used for construction, computer equipment, permit fees, or to support ongoing staffing needs of the applicant organization. A non-federal match, equal to 25% of the total request, is required and can include cash and/or in-kind services.

This is not the Coastal Community Grant, a separate planning grant funded by Maine Coastal Program. The [Coastal Community Grant](#) is administered by the Municipal Planning Assistance Program at the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and focuses on building community resilience, preparing for flooding, sea level rise, coastal storms and storm surge, shoreline erosion, and land use activity impacts to water quality.

Questions?

Melissa Britsch melissa.britsch@maine.gov | (207) 215-6171



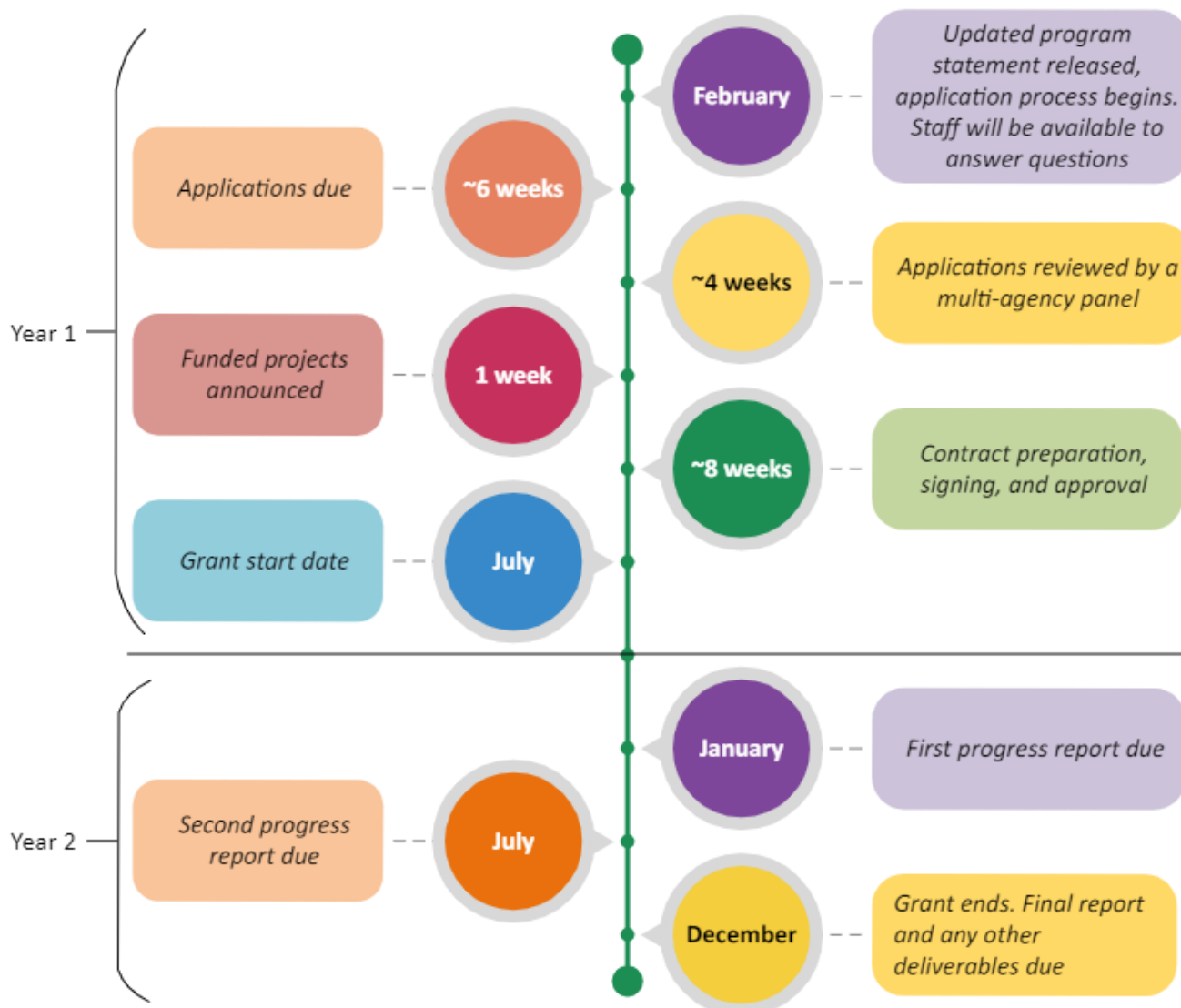
Shore and Harbor Planning Grant

Program Summary

Potential Projects

Many activities are eligible, as long as they focus on shoreline activities and public infrastructure. These can include, but are not limited to:

- Development of harbor management plans, mooring plans, and waterfront facility plans
- Climate vulnerability assessments and resilience plans for waterfront infrastructure
- Development and implementation of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to waterfront conservation and improvement
- Development of public and commercial access inventories and needs assessments for additional or improved access
- Planning, feasibility, and design efforts for resilient waterfront infrastructure
- Development of capital improvement plans to finance waterfront improvements
- Public outreach to raise awareness of working waterfront businesses and activities
- Economic analyses to document the value of commercial fishing and small ports and harbors
- Legal work to identify lost or contested rights-of-way



Example timeline for a Shore and Harbor Planning Grant project