



**B-WET**

BAY WATERSHED EDUCATION  
& TRAINING PROGRAM

# **Great Lakes B-WET Grant Competition 2016**

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Region & Thunder Bay NMS



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## Agenda

Introduction

What is Great Lakes B-WET?

Is it for me?

How do I apply?

Tips for submitting an application

Questions



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## NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training

The Great Lakes NOAA Bay-Watershed Education and Training (Great Lakes B-WET) Program is an environmental education program that supports experiential K-12 learning through local competitive grant awards.



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Great Lakes B-WET is part of the national B-WET Program found in each of the following geographic regions: Chesapeake Bay, California, Hawaiian Islands, New England, Gulf of Mexico, Pacific Northwest, and Great Lakes.

The Great Lakes B-WET program was established in 2011 with funding provided by the EPA through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.



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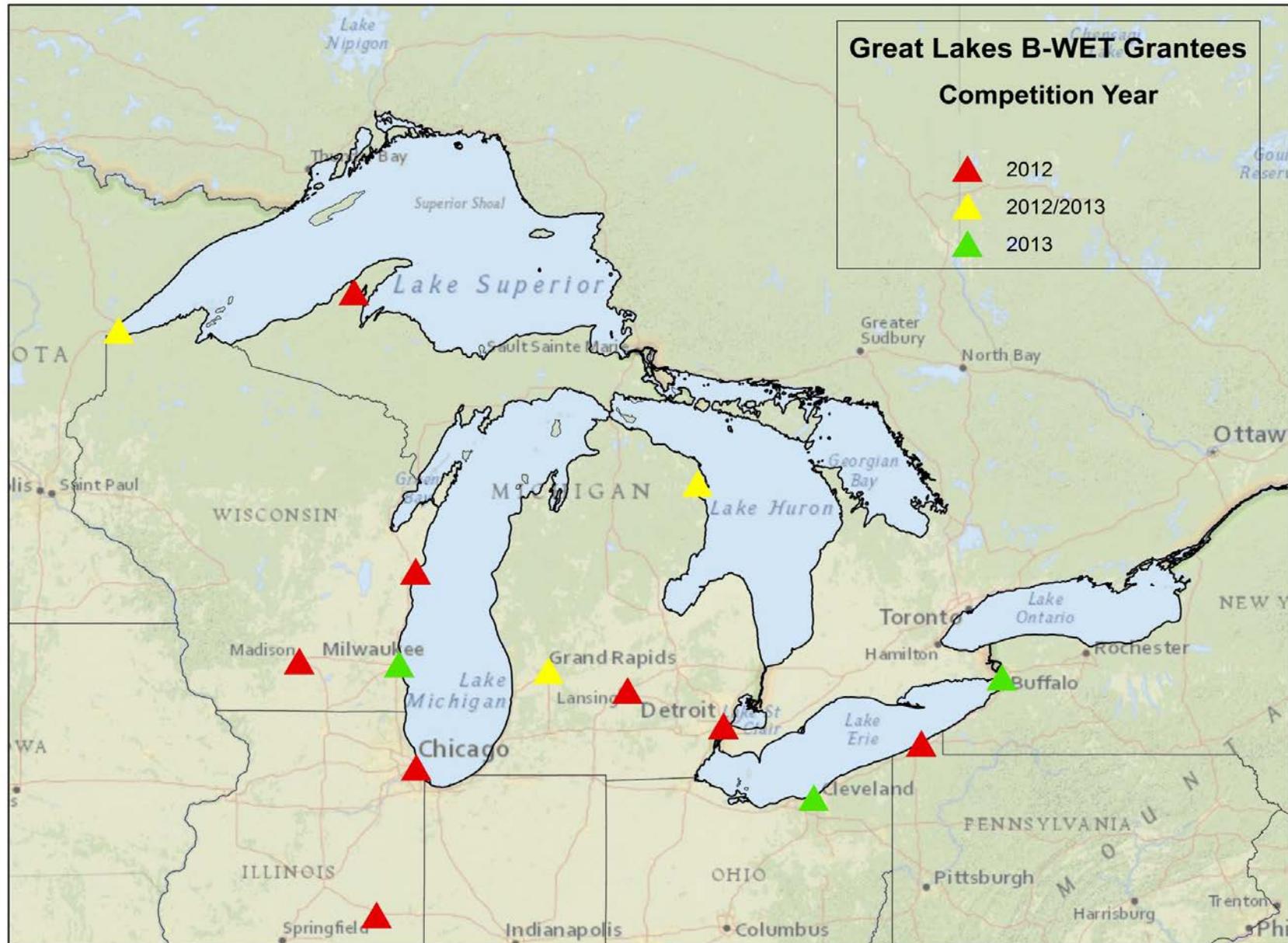
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- History: B-WET in the Great Lakes: began in 2011. 2012 our first competition – GLRI funded (EPA) 2012, 2013, NOAA OED 2014.
- Where it is: Great Lakes watersheds in all 8 states touching the Lakes
- Who Manages: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries: NE/Great Lakes Region and Thunder Bay NMS



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## Regional Stats

- 3 Year Cumulative: 24 total awards (15 grantees), \$1.4 million in federal funds awarded in 3 years. Combined GLRI (EPA) and NOAA investment . 27,430 students and 960 teachers cumulative.
- 2016: 7-15 new awards, \$540k



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## But what do B-WET grantees do?





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## NOAA B-WET Program Priority Areas

### **Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs) for Students**

- Weaves together classroom learning with field experiences
- Sustained activity
- Aligns with standards of learning



## MWEE Components

- Issue definition and background research
- Outdoor field activities
- Stewardship action projects
- Synthesis and conclusions



## But wait, there is more to a MWEE: Supporting Components

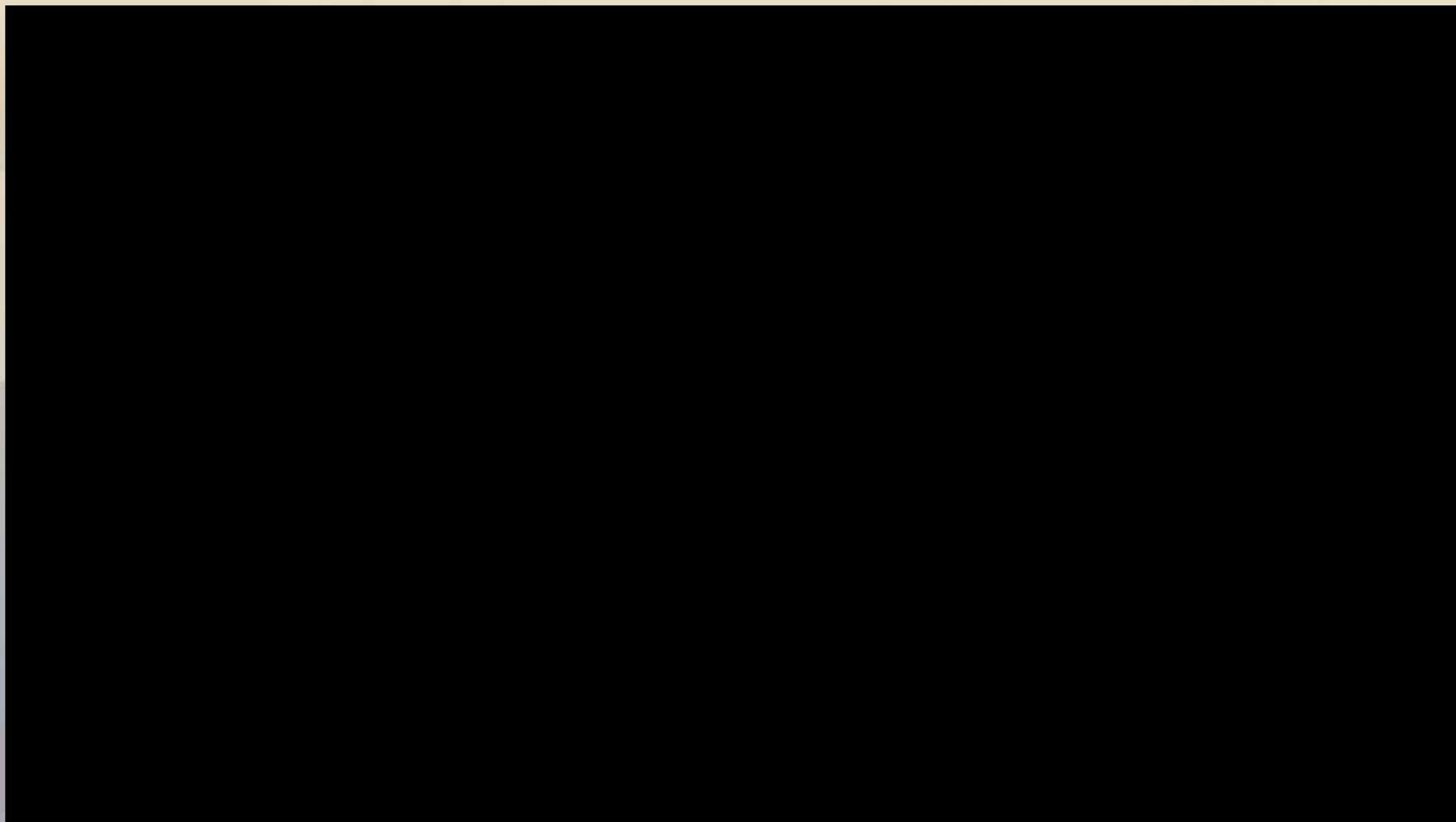
- Teacher participation for the duration of the MWEE
- Integration with classroom curriculum
- Use of the local context for learning
- Experiences are a set of activities over time
- Includes NOAA assets, including personnel and resources



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## **Ocean Guardian Program: MWEEs at their finest**





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## NOAA B-WET Program Priority Areas

### **Professional Development for Teachers related to MWEEs**

- Reinforces a teacher's ability to teach, inspire, and lead
- Teachers learn why and how to use inquiry based learning in their classrooms



## Professional Development Elements recommended to support teachers implementing MWEs

- Increase teachers' knowledge and awareness of environmental issues
- Models environmental education pedagogy
- Allows for adequate instructional time
- Provides ongoing teacher support and appropriate incentives
- Meets jurisdictional guidelines for effective PD



## NOAA B-WET Program Priority Areas

### **Exemplary Programs combining Teacher Professional Development and MWEEs for their Students**

- Systematic, long-term PD for teachers
- Multiple MWEEs for students that are fully supported in the classroom by their teachers



## *Regional* Priorities of the Great Lakes Program

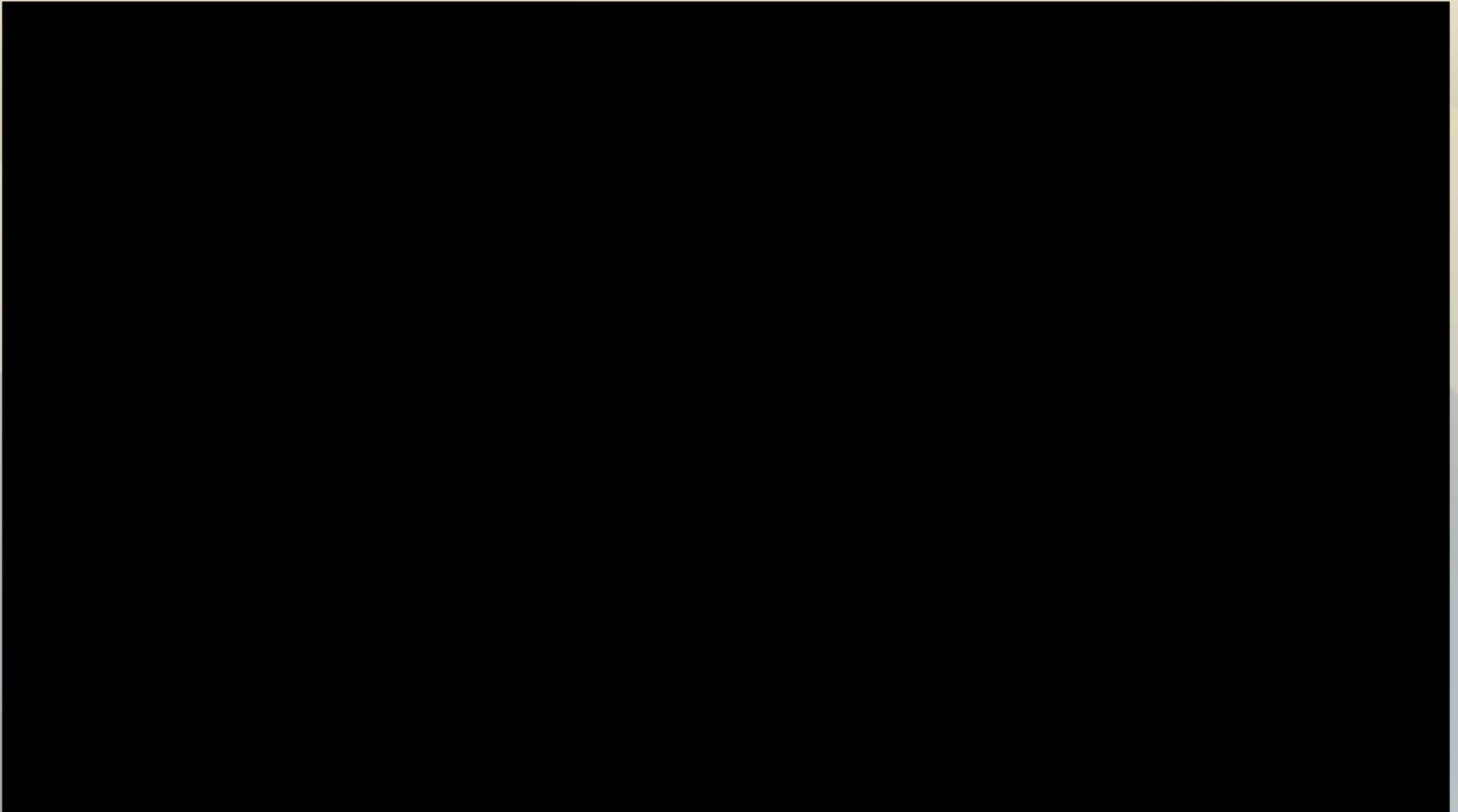
Under GLRI Action Plan II, federal agencies and their partners will continue to promote Great Lakes-based ecosystem education and stewardship for K-12 school students and other interested audiences (e.g., courses at parks, nature centers, museums and zoos). GLRI partners will work with existing environmental education programs, foster the growth of new programs, and align new and/or existing curricula with the Great Lakes Literacy Principles as well as state and national academic learning standards. **There will be an emphasis on training educators in order to maximize the number of students engaged over time. Federal agencies that are stewards of lands and waters important to the Great Lakes ecosystem will also provide place-based experiential learning to the public.** GLRI projects will include an evaluation component to ensure that the education programs directed towards educators are ultimately implemented in the classroom.



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## B-WET in Northeast Michigan





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I think B-WET  
is for me!



# Eligible Applicants

- Eligible applicants are K-12 public and independent schools and school systems, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, for profit organizations, state or local government agencies, interstate agencies, and Indian tribal governments.
- The Great Lakes region includes counties in the Great Lakes watershed in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Applicants may be physically located in any U.S. state; however, education projects must target teachers and/or students in the above defined Great Lakes watershed.



## Available Funding

- Anticipated that approximately \$540,000 available in FY16
- Applicants can request between \$25,000 to \$75,000
- Applicants can apply up for up to 3 years of successive funding for a project
- Great Lakes B-WET funds can be used for a variety of expenses to conduct programming including: buses, stipends, travel, substitutes, equipment, and professional evaluators.



## Project/Award Period

- Start date September 1, 2016
- Award period maximum of 18 months.
- Applications must include a project description and a budget for the entire award period.
- Applicants selected to receive funding may be asked to modify the project start date. It is recommended to include the flexibility of the requested start date in your project description.



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Sign me up!  
How do I apply today?





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# www.Grants.gov

View Opportunity | GRANTS.GOV - Google Chrome

www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279978

HOME LEARN GRANTS SEARCH GRANTS APPLICANTS GRANTORS SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM FORMS OUTREACH SUPPORT

GRANTS.GOV > View Opportunity

### VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

NOAA-NOS-ONMS-2016-2004696  
 FY16 Great Lakes Bay Watershed Education and Training Program  
 Department of Commerce

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SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | PACKAGE

[Print Synopsis Details ?](#)

The synopsis for this grant opportunity is detailed below, following this paragraph. This synopsis contains all of the updates to this document that have been posted as of **11/4/2015**. If updates have been made to the opportunity synopsis, update information is provided below the synopsis.

If you would like to receive notifications of changes to the grant opportunity click [send me change notification emails](#). The only thing you need to provide for this service is your email address. No other information is requested.

*Any inconsistency between the original printed document and the disk or electronic document shall be resolved by giving precedence to the printed document.*

**General Information**

<b>Document Type:</b> Grants Notice	<b>Posted Date:</b> Nov 4, 2015
<b>Funding Opportunity Number:</b> NOAA-NOS-ONMS-2016-2004696	<b>Creation Date:</b> Nov 4, 2015
<b>Funding Opportunity Title:</b> FY16 Great Lakes Bay Watershed Education and Training Program	<b>Original Closing Date for Applications:</b> Jan 29, 2016
<b>Opportunity Category:</b> Discretionary	<b>Current Closing Date for Applications:</b> Jan 29, 2016
<b>Funding Instrument Type:</b> Cooperative Agreement Grant	<b>Archive Date:</b> Feb 28, 2016
	<b>Estimated Total Program Funding:</b> \$540,000

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## The Application Process

- Download and Review FFO from Grants.gov
- Register your organization with Grants.gov (or confirm your information is up to date). Do this well in advance!
  - This includes being issued a DUNS number
  - Registering with the SAM system
  - Designating an Authorizing Official
- Download application package or complete online. Unless you do not have access to a computer – submit through Grants.gov.
- Follow the content and format described in FFO
  - Forms: SF424, SF-424A, SF-424B, CD-511, SF-LLL
  - Project Summary, Project Description, Literature Cited, Letters of Support/Partnership, Budget and Budget Justification, Resumes, Data Sharing Plan



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### Application Timeline

- Start planning now
- Submission Deadline January 29<sup>th</sup>
- Technical and Panel Review Process
- Award notification – estimated May \*funding dependent
- Award negotiation process
- Award start date – September 1
- 18-month duration
- Semi-annual reporting (6 month) – both program and financial. Final, cumulative report.
- Annual regional B-WET meeting for grantees – November as part of Great Lakes PBE Conference in Michigan.



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[www.thunderbay.noaa.gov/B-WET](http://www.thunderbay.noaa.gov/B-WET)

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary | BWET - Google Chrome

thunderbay.noaa.gov/B-WET/applying%20for%20great%20lakes%20B-WET%20grant.html

Apps | https--dms.ndc.noaa | Scans | Webtools 3 My Docs | Grants Online | Suggested Sites | Web Slice Gallery | Imported From IE | RTX 50 swim workouts | Climate Change Cla... | The Secret To Happi...

National Marine Sanctuaries  
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration



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**Applying for a Great Lakes B-WET Grant**

Applicants to NOAA grant programs should apply online via [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). The only electronic applications that will be accepted are those submitted through Grants.gov. Grants.gov is the primary application method for B-WET funding.

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# Resources

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary | BWET - Google Chrome

thunderbay.noaa.gov/B-WET/applying%20for%20great%20lakes%20B-WET%20grant.html

Apps | https--dms.ndc.noaa | Scans | Webtools 3 My Docs | Grants Online | Suggested Sites | Web Slice Gallery | Imported From IE | RTX 50 swim workouts | Climate Change Cla... | The Secret To Happi...

The Department of Commerce/ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (DOC/NOAA) is strongly committed to broadening the participation of historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic serving institutions, tribal colleges and universities, and institutions that service underserved areas. The NOAA B-WET program encourages proposals involving any of the above institutions.

## Developing Your Application

In the fall, the Great Lakes B-WET Program publishes its Federal Funding Opportunity on the program website and via Grant.gov. The Federal Funding Opportunity contains information needed to apply for a Great Lakes B-WET grant and includes information to assist applicants in aligning their project proposal to current program priorities. Applicants should read and follow the document carefully.

In addition to the Federal Funding Opportunity, the following resources may be helpful in developing your B-WET application:

- [Great Lakes B-WET Budget Template](#)
- [Definition of a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience](#)
- [NOAA Education Strategic Plan 2015 - 2035](#)
- [Great Lakes Literacy Principles](#)
- [Climate Literacy Principles](#)
- [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan II \(Great Lakes Regional Priority\)](#)
- [Performance Reporting Guidelines](#)
- [Great Lakes B-WET Grant Writing Tips](#)

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## Great Lakes B-WET Grant Writing Tips

- 1. Funding requests should be commensurate with the number of students/teachers served.
- 2. The B-WET Program should not be considered a long-term source of funds; therefore it is important that applicants explain how ongoing projects, once initiated, will be sustained.
- 3. The applicant should clearly state how the outdoor experiences are a part of a larger, sustained project. The applicant should demonstrate that the educational objectives and expected outcomes relate to a “meaningful” outdoor experience. The outdoor experiences should not be considered an ancillary or stand-alone event. Applicants should clearly document how the experiences are part of the school curriculum and aligned with State standards.



4. The B-WET Program strongly encourages applicants to use and disseminate existing environmental education materials (curricula, training materials, activity books, etc.) rather than designing new materials, because experts indicate that a significant amount of quality educational materials have already been developed and are under-utilized. Requested funding may include expenses related to the purchasing of curriculum for the project. If funding for development of new materials is requested, the applicant should clearly demonstrate that there is a need, e.g., that existing educational materials cannot be adapted well to a particular local environmental concern or audience, or existing materials are not otherwise accessible. The applicant should specify what steps they have taken to determine this need. All curricular materials and lesson plans should be aligned with State Content Standards and Frameworks.



5. Applications that propose to support an organization's day-to-day activities – or that primarily seek support for administration, salaries, overhead and travel – are typically not funded through the B-WET Program. Funding for salaries and fringe benefits may be included in the budget; however, justification for this should be included in the budget narrative. Ideally, the majority of funding will be used for engaging students and teachers in environmental projects.

6. The B-WET Program does not typically fund projects that are focused on web page development, unless the applicant provides documentation as to how the development of the web page is an integral and necessary component of the project.



7. Applications that propose to purchase significantly large quantities of infrastructure and equipment for an organization are typically not funded through the B-WET Program. Funding for a reasonable amount of infrastructure and equipment may be included in the budget; however, ideally the majority of funding will be used for engaging students and teachers in environmental projects.
8. Construction costs are not allowable under the Great Lakes B-WET program.
9. Budget narratives should include ample detail to allow reviewers to fully understand use of proposed funds.
10. Applicants should not assume prior knowledge of their organization and programs on the part of the reviewers.
11. Applicants should follow the requirements of the Federal Funding Opportunity carefully.



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## Great Lakes B-WET More Information

Contact Cathy Green  
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Cathy.green@noaa.gov  
989-356-8805 x10

[www.thunderbay.noaa.gov/B-WET](http://www.thunderbay.noaa.gov/B-WET)



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## Questions?



*Great Lakes*  
REGIONAL PROGRAM