OER Federal Funding Opportunity Process

Ocean Exploration Advisory Board Meeting
March 31, 2015 – La Jolla, California
Process steps for OER federal funding opportunity (FFO) announcements
Phase I: FFO created and published

1. Based on identified mission needs and priorities OER selects regions and/or topics for next fiscal year funding announcement

2. The FFO is published on Grants.gov
OER FFO Process: Phase II

Phase II: Pre-proposal submission and assessment

1. Pre-proposals submitted directly to OER via email

2. Pre-proposals assessed by OER team using 4 criteria:
   • Relevance and applicability to FFO announcement
   • Scientific and technical merit
   • Overall qualifications of the applicants
   • Projected costs

3. Response provided to investigator encouraging or discouraging full proposal submission
Phase III: Full proposal submission & assessment

1. Full proposals from non federal PIs submitted through Grants.gov
2. Full proposals from federal PIs are submitted through email to OER
Phase IV: Full Proposal Review

1. Mail review
   • Proposals sent to a minimum of three mail reviewers
   • Mail reviewers use criteria published in FFO

2. Panel Review
   • Panelists use mail reviews and own evaluation
   • Each panelists scores every proposal
   • Panel does not rank proposals
Phase V: Selection, Business Review, and Award

1. OER ranks proposals using panelists scores and feedback
2. Proposals awarded based on ranking, office priorities/constraints
3. OER negotiates budget with PIs; PIs revise proposals
4. NOAA Grants Management reviews and funds
OER FFO Process: NSF Comparison

Phase I
- FFO created and published

Phase II
- Pre-proposals Submission and Assessment

Phase III
- Full Proposals submission and assessment

Phase IV
- Full Proposals review

Phase V
- Selection, Business review, Award and Follow-up

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OER FFO Process: Timeline

- **Phase I** (NOV): FFO created and published
- **Phase II** (DEC): Pre-proposals Submission and Assessment
- **Phase III** (JAN): Full Proposals submission and assessment
- **Phase IV** (APR): Full Proposals review
- **Phase V** (JUL): Selection, Business review, Award and Follow-up
Potential new OER FFO timeline intended to allow applicants more time to prepare proposals and earlier disbursement of funds to awardees
Questions?

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