

Shoreline Erosion Control Grant Program
Division of Boating and Waterways
November 13, 2025

Summary:

The authority for the Shoreline Erosion Control Grant Program (*Harbors and Navigation Code 65-67.4*) was part of the legislation that created the Department of Navigation and Ocean Development, the predecessor agency to the Department of Boating and Waterways. The principal purpose of the program is to study the problems of beach erosion and to construct projects to stabilize beaches and shoreline areas either through the strategic placement of sand or via hard structures like seawalls, groins, and rock revetments in concentrated areas to protect vital public infrastructure. Many projects in this program are funded 50% by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with the State paying up to 50% of the cost of the local sponsor's required 50% project cost share for construction.

Application Deadline for FY2027/28 Funding:

- Letter of intent: December 15, 2025
- Full application: February 2, 2026

Application Procedure: First, agencies submit a letter of intent to DBW with a basic description of their proposed project. If DBW determines the letter describes an eligible project, it invites the agency to submit an application requesting funding for a specific phase of the project (study, planning, feasibility, design, or construction) along with a resolution from their governing body authorizing the application for grant funding.

FY2025/26 Funding Authorized: None.

Typical Grant Amount: Varies by project. Recent grants have ranged from \$40,000 to \$3 million depending upon the project.

Funding Source(s): None defined in statute. Past project funding sources have included the General Fund, the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, and other smaller State funds.

Project Funding Procedure: Projects are funded individually through the annual state budget process. Each year, DBW reviews project applications and recommends the highest-ranking projects for funding through the budget change proposal process. Because of the many steps required in the creation of the state budget, the time between when applications are due and when the final budget is published is approximately 18 months.

Eligible Grant Recipients: Federal, state, regional, and local government agencies.

Restrictions: Projects must primarily serve a public purpose. Private benefits can only be incidental.

Accomplishments/Planning:

- DBW introduced the letter of intent step to our application process for the first time last year.
- DBW is currently preparing updated instructional video presentations for applicants and grant awardees.