


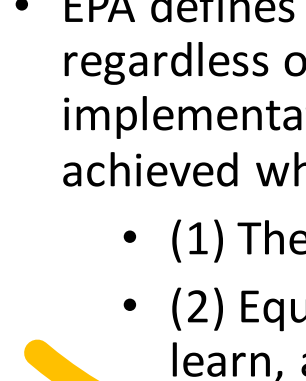


RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES

Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund Informational Webinar



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- **The Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF)** is a partnership among:
 - Restore America's Estuaries
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - Long Island Sound Study (LISS).
 - **Purpose:** To provide technical and financial assistance to environmental justice communities to address environmental issues and improve the quality and accessibility of the Long Island Sound.
 - Funding is provided by EPA through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and will help meet the Justice40 Initiative goal which states: "40% of the overall benefits of these Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution."
 - EPA defines environmental justice as, "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. This goal will be achieved when everyone enjoys:
 - (1) The same degree or protection from environmental and health hazards, and
 - (2) Equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work."

Long Island Sound: The Urban Sea

The Long Island Sound Study formed in 1985, a bi-state partnership of federal and state agencies, user groups, and concerned groups and individuals dedicated to protecting and restoring this vital estuary.

Home to more than 1200 invertebrates, 170 fish species, and dozens of migratory birds; 9 million people on the watershed.



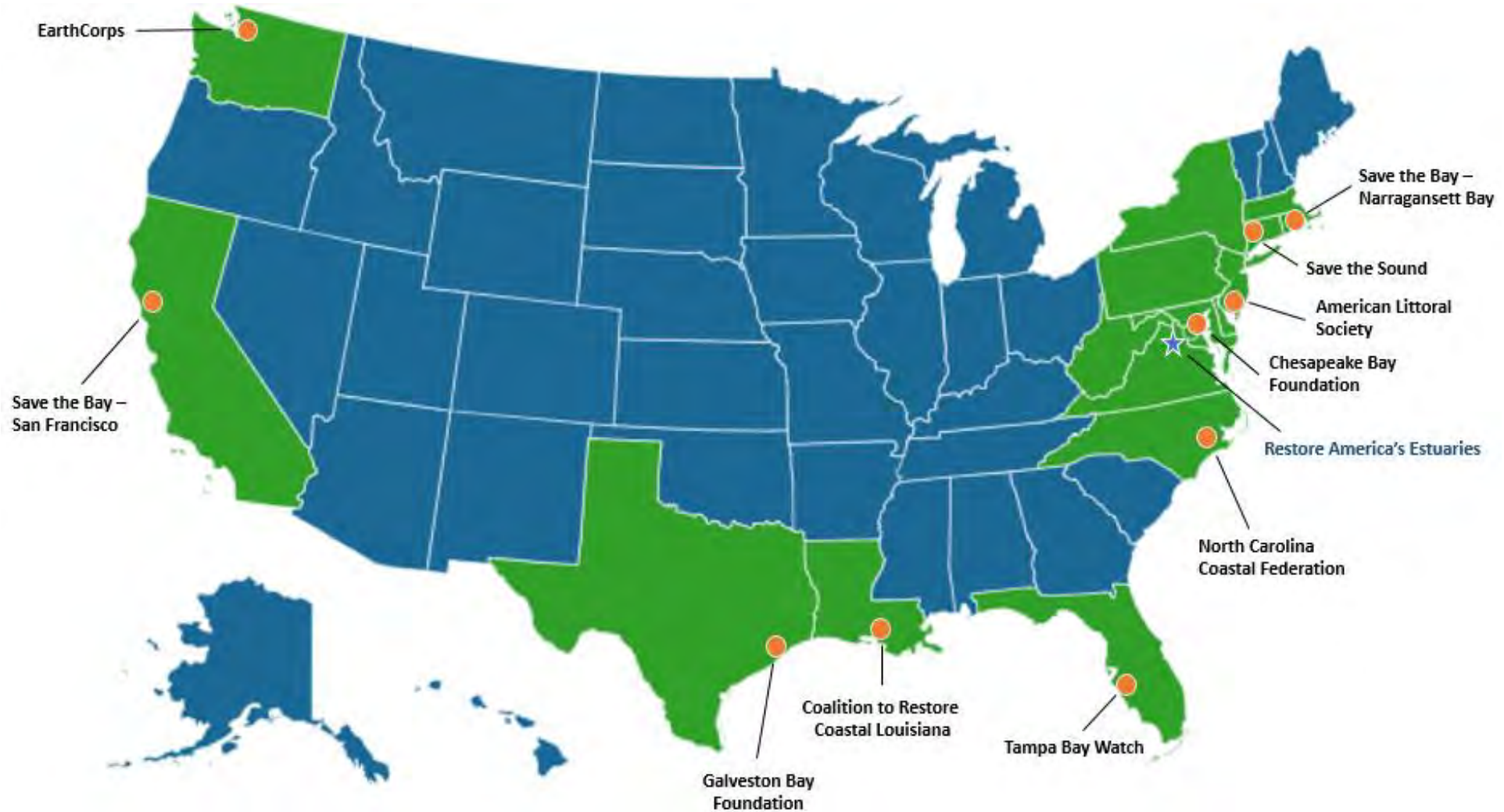
Long Island Sound Study
A Partnership to Restore and Protect the Sound



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



Restore America's Estuaries is dedicated to the protection and restoration of bays and estuaries as essential resources for our nation



Affiliate Members

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay | Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership | Audubon Society | Billion Oyster Project | Black in Marine Science | Bonefish & Tarpon Trust | Buzzards Bay Coalition | Choctawatchee Basin Alliance | Clean Foundation | Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation | Ducks Unlimited | Ecosphere Restoration Institute | Environmental Defense Fund | Gulf of Mexico Alliance | Land Trust Alliance | The Nature Conservancy | National Wildlife Federation | Ocean Conservancy | Pontchartrain Conservancy | Restore the Mississippi River Delta | Women's Aquatic Network

Agenda

- Overview of the Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF)
- Eligibility
- Project Requirements
- Budget
- Application Process & Deadlines
- Resources



Photo by Vicki Hess from Pexels: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/panoramic-photo-of-river-1000069/>

Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF)

Program Goals

- Program Overview:
 - For LISCIF 2024 - RAE will award up to \$1,500,000 in federal funds
 - Typical awards will range from about \$5,000 to \$100,000
 - Annual Learning Exchange among regional institutions, including stipends to attend
 - Investment in training programs and grants
 - Prepare local organizations to apply for grant funding through this program and others
 - Strengthen and diversify connections within Long Island Sound region

Geographic Eligibility

- The LISS geographic region refers to the Long Island Sound watershed area within New York and Connecticut for the purpose of this project.
- An interactive map of the region: [ArcGIS - Interactive LISS National Estuary Program Map](#)



Applicant Eligibility

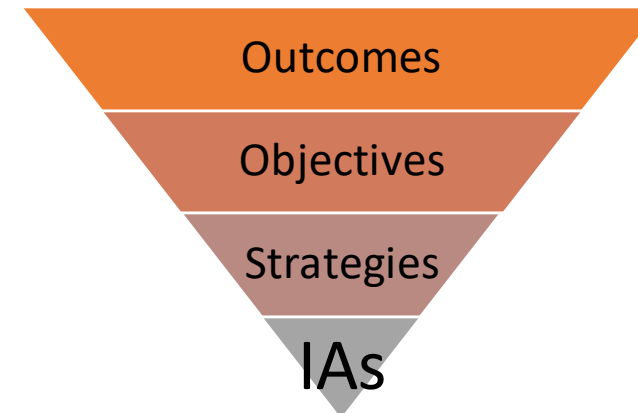
- Eligible Applicants include non-profit organizations, Tribes, state, county, local governments, and their subdivisions, and academic institutions.
- Projects funded under LISCIF must address the priorities identified under “Funding Priorities” in the RFA.
- Proposals should target communities experiencing or affected by adverse and disproportionate environmental and human health risks or harms, including affected underserved communities within the LIS geographic boundaries.
- All subaward projects should be community driven or community led.
- Federal agencies are not eligible recipients of funding but may be included as partners in proposals submitted by eligible recipients.
- Organizations may submit multiple LOIs or applications either as a lead organization, or as a partner on another organization’s application. Multiple applications must be submitted separately, and each will be evaluated independent of other proposals.

Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)



4 Themes:

- Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds
- Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife
- Sustainable and Resilient Communities
- Sound Science and Inclusive Management



Cross-cutting Principles:

- Long-term sustainability
- Climate Resiliency
- Environmental Justice

Themes and Goals of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Source: <https://longislandsoundstudy.net/our-vision-and-plan/>



Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds

The goal of this theme is to improve water quality by reducing contaminant and nutrient loads from the land and waters impacting the Long Island Sound.

Source: CCMP, The Lower Connecticut River, a Long Island Sound Stewardship Area, Old Lyme, CT. (Photo by Jerry Monkman/Ecophotography)

Source: CCMP, Great Gull Island supports the largest nesting populations of common terns in the world. (Photo by Venu Challa)



Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife

The goal of this theme is to restore and protect the Sound's ecological balance in a healthy, productive, and resilient state of benefit both people and the natural environment.



Sustainable and Resilient Communities

The goal of this theme is to support vibrant, informed, and engaged communities that use, appreciate, and help protect Long Island Sound.

Source: CCMP, Youth from Rocking the Boat, a Bronx environmental organization, on board a student-built boat on the Bronx River. (Photo by Joaquin Cotten)

Source: CCMP, CTDEEP Scientists conduct trawl surveys of the Sound's marine life, including horseshoe crabs, on board the Research Vessel John Dempsey. (Photo by Richard Howard)



Sound Science and Inclusive Management

The goal of this theme is to manage Long Island Sound using sound science and cross jurisdictional governance that is inclusive, adaptive, innovative, and accountable.

Program Priorities

Alignment with the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Main Funding Themes:

Clean Waters & Healthy Watersheds

Thriving Habitats & Abundant Wildlife

Sustainable & Resilient Communities

Sound Science & Inclusive Management

1. Projects that result in quantifiable pollutant prevention or reduction
2. Restoring habitat within the Important Coastal Habitat Types targeted by LISS
3. Projects that foster diverse, balanced and abundant populations of fish, birds and wildlife
4. Public engagement, knowledge and stewardship
5. Projects that enhance community resilience and sustainability
6. Planning and design that set the stage for implementation of water quality projects, eligible habitat restoration projects and resilience projects
7. Community-based science projects
8. Data management and integration projects
9. Other similar activities that the applicant proposes



Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF24)

Project Impact Model Example

Example: Protecting Piping Plovers

Project:
Protecting
Piping Plovers



LISCIF Funding
Priority: Public
engagement,
knowledge, and
stewardship.



CCMP Funding
Theme:
Sustainable and
Resilient
Communities



Impact: Increase
public
knowledge on
piping plovers,
their nesting
grounds,
habitat, and
various
shorebirds.



Implementation
Action: SC-
18: Support and
encourage
informal
education
activities on
Long Island
Sound.



Achievement of LISCIF Project Metrics

- Upon completion of a LISCIF-funded project, applicants will summarize results using the LISCIF metric framework.
- Projects will use metrics established by the CCMP, under its Implementation Actions.
- As needed, RAE will assist grant recipients in assessing the results of the work, for inclusion in the final report.

LISCIF Applicant Resources



[Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\)](#)



[Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\) Implementation Actions \(IAs\)](#)



[Supplemental Documents on Implementation Actions \(IAs\)](#)

[Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds](#)
[Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife](#)
[Sustainable and Resilient Communities](#)
[Sound Science and Inclusive Management](#)



[LISCIF Project Case Studies, Examples of Impact Models & Implementation Actions](#)



[LISCIF LOI Scoring and Evaluation Rubric](#)



[LISCIF Full Proposal Scoring and Evaluation Rubric](#)



[LISCIF Excel Budget Template](#)

Go to: www.estuaries.org/liscif

LISCIF Applicant and Grantee Resources

QUICK LINKS

- About LISCIF
 - Download the 2024 RFA
 - Submit your Letter of Intent
- Events and Trainings
- Applicant and Grantee Resources
- Sign Up for LISCIF Updates

The following are a list of resources to help you apply for LISCIF24 funding:

Federal System Award Management (SAM) registration account can be created at no cost at: <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>. Applicant organization Unique Entity ID (UEI) will be automatically generated by your SAM account.

[Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\)](#).

[Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\) Implementation Actions \(IAs\)](#).

[Supplemental Documents on Implementation Actions \(IAs\)](#).

- [Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds](#)

Use of Funds

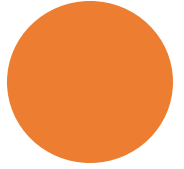
- Project Costs
- Salary
- Fringe
- Contractual Support
- Tools & Equipment
- Supplies
- Conferences & Travel
- Indirect Costs

*All grant payments will be made on a reimbursement basis. Reimbursement requests shall be submitted at least quarterly and at most monthly.



Ineligible Uses of Funds

- **Research and Monitoring:** LISCIF will not fund proposals in which the primary purpose is research or monitoring; however, research and monitoring may be funded as part of a larger grant, where the purpose of the research or monitoring is to assess results and outcomes of the grant-funded activity.
- **Actions Legally Required:** LISCIF will not fund actions required to settle a formal enforcement action or included in a court order; nor will it fund actions required as mitigation measures under a state, local, or federal permit for a specific project.
- **Routine Maintenance:** LISCIF will not fund work involving only routine activities to maintain stormwater infrastructure, other facilities, land, or waterbodies.
- **Plans or studies that lack a clear environmental impact or path to implementation:** Plans and studies will be considered for funding only if they are directly relevant to, and provide results that inform, the achievement of CCMP goals, and where applicants can describe a realistic pathway to implementation.
- **Conventional “gray infrastructure” projects:** LISCIF will not fund conventional infrastructure projects using well-established technologies or methods (e.g., installation of sewer lines).
- **Private Construction:** LISCIF will not fund new construction or retrofitting of buildings or facilities serving primarily private purposes, including residential, commercial, and institutional properties.
- **Land Purchase:** Purchase of land or real estate will not be funded.



Budget

- No match requirements
- Excel Budget Template can be downloaded under LISCIF Applicant and Grantee Resources Page

Budget Training:

- October 16th at 11:00 am
- November 13th at 11:00 am

LISCIF Proposal Budget Table:

Cost Category and Item	Cost Basis	LISCIF Request	Eligible for Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)	Total Cost
a. Personnel (Grantee Organization Only)				
Habitat Coordinator	500 hrs at \$40.50	\$20,250	\$20,250	\$20,250
Total Personnel		\$20,250	\$20,250	\$20,250
b. Fringe Benefits				
Habitat Coordinator	20% fringe rate	\$4,050	\$4,050	\$4,050
Total Fringe		\$4,050	\$4,050	\$4,050
c. Travel				
Travel to RAE Summit (2 people)	Air fare, per diem, hotel	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total Travel		\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
d. Equipment				
***Total Equipment				
e. Supplies				
Water Quality Testing Kits	100 kits at \$60	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000

Application Process

1

Step 1: Submit Letter of Intent

- Due: December 1, 2023, 4:00 pm EST

2

Invitation to Submit Full Proposal

- Week of January 15, 2024

3

Step 2: Submit Full Proposal

- Due: March 15, 2024, 4:00 pm EST

LISCIF - Timeline



RESTORE
AMERICA'S
ESTUARIES

September
27, 2023 –
LISCIF RFA
Released

December
1, 2023 –
Letters of
Intent Due

Week of
January 15,
2024 –
Notification
of
accepted/re
jected LOIs

March 15,
2024 – Full
Proposals
Due by
Invitation

April 2024 –
Notification
of Awards

July 1, 2024
– Project
Start Date

July 31,
2025 –
Completion
of Work

September
30, 2025 –
Final
Reporting
Due

Letter of Intent

Section 1: Applicant Information

Name/Role of Organization
Project Leader: Contact Info

Section 2: Organizational Fiscal Information

Employer Identification Number (EIN)
Federal System Award Management / Unique Entity ID

Section 3: Project Overview

Description/Phase
Attached Map/List of Partners

Section 4: Cost Information

Amount Requested

Section 5: Project Description

Problem, Impact, Alignment with the CCMP
Stakeholders, Work Plan, Project Team

Section 6: Required Uploads

Map
Proposal Budget

Section 7: Certification

Signature of responsible individual

To Submit Your Letter of Intent, go to: www.estuaries.org/liscif



[Learn](#)

[Our Impact](#)

[Make a Difference](#)

[Grants & Resources](#)

[About](#)

Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund

The 2024 Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund Request for Applications (RFA) is now available. Prospective applicants should read the RFA in totality before applying. RAE will host two informational webinars for prospective applicants – please click the links below to register:

- [October 10, 10:00 AM](#)
- [October 17, 2:00 PM](#)

Letters of Intent are due on December 1st at 4:00 PM. If you have any questions, please contact [Shahela Begum](#), LISCIF Program Director.

[The full press announcement is available here.](#)

[DOWNLOAD THE RFA](#)

[SUBMIT YOUR LETTER OF INTENT](#)

Letter of Intent Log-in page



RESTORE AMERICA'S ESTUARIES

Contact Us | Exit

Application Instructions-READ FIRST

Application Information

Contact Information

Organizational Fiscal Information

Project Overview

Project Details

Attachments

Review My Application

Save & Finish Later

Next

Application Instructions-READ FIRST

Printer Friendly Version | E-mail Draft

* Required before final submission

- Add mail@grantapplication.com to your address book or safe senders list to ensure you receive all system communications. You will receive regular communication from this email, please be sure to check your junk/spam folder.
- Before filling out the application, you may find it helpful to click the "Printer Friendly Version" button above. This will offer you a preview of all of the questions on the application.
- After you have previewed the application, you may wish to utilize a word-processing tool (i.e. Microsoft Word), to craft your responses, then cut and paste them into the application.
- Be sure to save your application often. You may save and return to your application later by clicking the "Save & Finish Later" button at the bottom of each screen.
- You may return to your saved application by logging into your "My Account" page at this URL:<https://us.grantrequest.com/accountmanager.aspx?sid=6351>
- To move to the next page, please click the "Next Page" button at the bottom of the page or click the tab at the top of the page.
- When clicking the "Review & Submit" button, you will be required to review the entire application one final time before clicking the "Submit Application" button at the bottom of the screen.
- When uploading attachments, after selecting the file you must click "Upload".

Save & Finish Later

Next

Technical Support Webinars

See recorded webinars and download slides.

Sign up for upcoming webinars!



Project Design &
Building
Partnerships
(watch the
recording)



Grant
Writing: How to
Write a Strong
Narrative (watch
the
recording)



Budgeting &
Staffing:
How to Ensure
the Project is
Financially
Viable (watch
the recording)



Budgeting Q&A
Session, 11/13,
11 am – 12 pm

Schedule 30 minute technical support calls: <https://calendly.com/liscif/shahela>

Technical Support Training Webinars

September 19, 2023

- Project Design & Building Partnerships

October 12, 2023

- Grant Writing: How to Write a Strong Narrative

October 16, 2023

- Budgeting & Staffing: How to Ensure the Project is Financially Viable

November 13, 2023

- Budgeting Q&A Session

January 2024

- Grant Writing Assistance: LISCIF Full Proposal Requirements

June 2024

- Grants Agreement & Invoicing

August 2024

- Project Implementation

October 2024

- Coalition Building & Networking with Partners

November 2024

- Communications

December 2024

- Bookkeeping

January 2025

- Collecting Data & Database Development

March 2025

- Advocacy & Educational Outreach

April 2025

- Results & Reporting

May 2025

- Fundraising

June 2025

- GIS Mapping: Presenting Results & Findings

July 2025

- Writing Your Results

Thank You - Questions?

Shahela Begum, LISCIF Program Director

Email: sbegum@estuaries.org



Source: Shahela Begum, Rockaway Initiative for
Sustainability & Equity, Jamaica Bay Estuary