Ohio Division of Wildlife Aquatic Education Grant Program

Each year, the Ohio Division of Wildlife allocates funds received from the Sportfish Restoration Act to be awarded as Aquatic Education Grants. For more information on the Sportfish Restoration Act refer to:
http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/AboutUs/WSFRProgramBrochure2011.pdfx

This document provides an overview of the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Aquatic Education Grant Program and addresses the following:

- Eligible applicants
- Eligible program types and elements
- Grant application and implementation timetables
- Selection and approval process

Eligible Applicants

Schools, park and recreation departments, conservation groups, local governments, and other non-profit organizations that wish to sponsor an aquatic or angler education program are eligible. Multiple agencies may work cooperatively to conduct a program or event, but only one grant application may be submitted. The grant applicant is responsible for contract administration, permitting, fund management, and final report submission.

Eligible Programs

The Aquatic Education Grant Program is designed to increase aquatic stewardship and sportfishing participation. Applicants must address the following criteria:

- The project must include an opportunity for the participants to engage in an aquatic education learning session. Examples of activities include: Passport to Fishing, water quality monitoring, or a fish hatchery tour.
- The project must include a hands-on fishing opportunity.
- A final report must be submitted to the Ohio Division of Wildlife upon completion of the project. The Division of Wildlife will provide a reporting form and instructions for submission.

Examples of Recent Recipients

- Multi-day youth fishing camp at Camp Muskingum hosted by Lake and Trails Organization
- “Fishing with Dad” event hosted by Columbus Urban League
- Single-day fishing clinic with Passport to Fishing program hosted by The Woods and Waters Club
- Trout stocking and fly fishing clinic hosted by Clear Fork River Chapter, Trout Unlimited
- “Antlers and Anglers” event featuring portable fishing pond hosted by Boardman Township Park District

Ineligible Program Expenses

No grants will be issued for overhead costs, program administration, planning or research. Prize items are also an ineligible expense. Food and beverage expenses greater than 50% of the total funding request will not be funded. Grants will not be issued to projects with commercial overtones.

Grant Application

Please complete all sections of the grant application and provide as much detail as possible. Use these guidelines to provide an accurate program budget and to calculate matching funds:

- The proposed budget must be within the range of $2,000.00 - $10,000.00. Proposals with a budget in excess of $5,000.00 must have multiple partners (i.e., more than one school, park, or agency must be involved). Complete the table on the grant application to provide an itemized budget.

- Applicants must provide a minimum of <u>25% matching funds</u> for the proposed project. Example: A project with a proposed budget of $10,000 must provide proof of $2,500 in matching funds. Eligible matching funds include:
    - Non-federal volunteer labor is an eligible contribution towards matching funds. Volunteer in-kind contributions are calculated using the following method:

      Volunteer in-kind = # of volunteer hours x $36.39 (labor rate)

      Example: In the grant application, an applicant claiming 100 hours of volunteer labor will provide matching funds of $3,639.00.

    - Donations from non-federal sources including: equipment or cash

Complete the table on the grant application to provide an itemized list of matching funds. Please remember to calculate in-kind labor hours using the equation above.

Application Review and Approval

Acceptance of a proposal is based upon several factors such as depth and scope of the program, match funding and support, community involvement, actual fishing opportunities, aquatic education lessons, and the number of participants reached.

Applicants must submit a final report including volunteer signatures and hours upon completion of the program. Recipients failing to submit a final report may be disqualified from receiving future aquatic education grants.

For proposed programs taking place between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013:

Submit a complete grant application. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. All approved projects must be completed by June 30, 2013.

For proposed programs taking place between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014:

Submit a complete grant application. All applications are due into the Aquatic Education Coordinator by March 29, 2013.

Applications will be scored using standard criteria and applicants will be notified of final funding decisions by April 30, 2013. All approved projects must be completed by June, 30, 2014.

Applications can be sent via email to: aquatic.education@dnr.state.oh.us or mailed to:

Ohio Division of Wildlife
Aquatic Education Program
2045 Morse Road; G-1
Columbus, OH 43229

Following review and acceptance of the grant application, the aquatic education coordinator will draft a subsidy agreement for grantee review and signature. A signed copy of the subsidy agreement must be returned to the Division of Wildlife for final approval. The signed document may be returned via fax (614-262-1171) or email (aquatic.education@dnr.state.oh.us). The subsidy agreement is submitted for final approval and signatures from the Chief of the Division of Wildlife and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources. The agreement will not be approved until all signatures are received. After the subsidy agreement has been approved, a signed contract will be delivered to the grant recipient. This will serve as a final approved copy of the contract.

OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
AQUATIC EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Grant Application Form

An electronic version can be obtained by contacting the Aquatic Education Coordinator at aquatic.education@dnr.state.oh.us

PLEASE USE THIS FORM AND FILL IN ALL SECTIONS!

APPLICANT INFORMATION
Name of Business/Organization:
Type of Business:
Federal Tax Identification Number (FIN):
Mailing Address:
Project Contact(s) & Title:
Phone/Email:

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Name of Program:

Location and Date(s) of Program:

Demographics of participants (including age):

Purpose and Need:

Program Objective(s):

Expected Results & Benefits:

PROGRAM COSTS

Amount requested:

Amount of match: Cash = Volunteer In-kind = TOTAL = 0

BUDGET AND MATCHING FUNDS

Program Budget:

Item Description	Quantity	Cost/ Unit	Total Cost
			0
			0
			0
			0

Matching Funds:			
Matching Funds Description	**Quantity or # of Hours**	**Cost/ Unit**	**Value**
			0
			0
			0
			0
			0
			0