

The University of Puerto Rico Sea Grant College Program SEED-MONEY Program

Federal Agency: University of Puerto Rico Grant College Program, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

Dates: Next Announcement should be published in September 2006.

Funding Opportunity Description: The objective of the seed money fund is to jump start students and faculty members in a promising and innovative line of research in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The objective of the seed money fund is to jump start students and faculty members in a promising and innovative line of research. Innovative projects must address pertinent issues, have the potential to evolve into new or compliment existing thematic areas. We anticipate that research funded by seed money will eventually draw additional support from Sea Grant, as well as from other funding agencies. It is a small amount, but a significant investment in future research. Program promotes research activities in **all** scientific disciplines related to the **conservation and sustainable use of marine resources**, such as: anthropology, architecture, biology, chemistry, economics, engineering, food technology, geology, history, law, mathematics, medicine, physics, planning, policy research, recreation, resource management, political science, and sociology, among others.

Funding: Individual awards range from \$3,500/year for two years and have March 1 start date. A total of approximately **five projects** will be selected each year, according to their merit, and the evaluation from a committee appointed by the program's director. Additional funding will be made available for projects related to coastal community development, sustainable development, and economic valuation of coastal resources.

Funding Instrument: Grants will be awarded through this program.

Funding Duration: These are one year projects.

Eligible Applicants: Public and private institutions of higher education, institutes, laboratories, and public or private agencies which are engaged or are concerned with, activities in the various fields related to the development of marine resources.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: Researchers are encouraged to provide matching funds through their academic departments, non-governmental organizations, federal and commonwealth programs, research and exchange programs, and the universities' research offices, among others. Partnerships with conservation agencies and organizations are also encouraged.

FY2005 Program Priorities (priorities may for FY06):

In FY2005 priority to those projects related to: coastal community development, open ocean mariculture, economic valuation of coastal resources, conservation and restoration of habitats, ecosystem health, and water quality.

To access information about this program -
<http://seagrant.uprm.edu/research.html>.