



Request for Workshop Proposals

Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee

The Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP) Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) is accepting proposals for STAC-sponsored workshops for the STAC fiscal year 2016 budget cycle (beginning June 1, 2016). Workshops are convened to gather critically needed scientific or technical information related to protection and restoration of Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. Proposals are due January 25, 2016 and workshops must be convened by May 31, 2017.

Who Can Request Funding?

As an independent advisory committee to the entire Chesapeake Bay Partnership, STAC reserves funds for both responsive and proactive workshops.

Responsive workshops may be proposed by any CBP partner or committee. Potential partners include: New York; Pennsylvania; Maryland; Delaware; West Virginia; Virginia; District of Columbia; any CBP-GIT (Goal Implementation Team); Local Government Advisory Committee; Citizens' Advisory Committee; Chesapeake Bay Commission; Management Board; and Executive Council. Proposals must be made in collaboration with a current STAC member.

Proactive workshops may be proposed by individual STAC members in collaboration with any CBP partner or research institution or STAC workgroups.

Requirements for Funding

A successful proposal should be no more than three pages in length, adhere to all guidelines outlined in the STAC Workshop Protocols, and include the requirements listed for either Proactive or Responsive Workshops:

(http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/downloads/_STACWorkshopProtocol_Adopted7.18.11_Revised9.2.15.pdf). Please clearly indicate the category to which the proposal is being submitted.

- Proposals submitted for consideration toward responsive workshops also require an individualized letter (not included in the three-page limit) in support of the proposed workshop activity, degree of urgency, anticipated products and estimated delivery dates. The letter should be endorsed with signature(s) of lead representatives of the group or agency that will benefit directly from the activity – e.g. the Chair of any CBP committee or GIT, jurisdiction's governor or mayor, or by a state agency staff/deputy secretary. Proactive proposals do not require a letter of support.

After submitting a written workshop proposal to STAC, the STAC membership will rate the merit and urgency of the proposals and select the top proposals for funding at its March quarterly meeting to be held on March 15-16, 2016. Please note that workshops funded through this RFP must be completed by May 31, 2017.

Workshop Planning

For accepted workshops, requestors will be required to work with STAC Staff to plan the workshop. STAC Staff will provide assistance in all contracts and managing the logistical details. Due to this requirement, STAC Staff must be included in all workshop planning meetings, teleconferences, email correspondences, and other communication related to the workshop.

Workshop Products

After acceptance of a workshop by STAC, it is the responsibility of the workshop steering committee to complete the workshop and any products listed in the funded proposal. It is incumbent upon the workshop steering committee to identify the time sensitivity of the workshop and its products, and the workshop steering committee is solely responsible for meeting these delivery dates. STAC requires that each steering committee complete its final workshop report or other product **within 90 days** following completion of the workshop. Final review, distribution, and online posting will be completed by STAC within six weeks of receipt of a workshop product. All workshop products are subject to the STAC Publications Protocol (http://www.chesapeake.org/stac/downloads/_STACPublicationProtocol_Revised9.2.15.pdf), with the STAC Executive Secretary having final editorial discretion prior to publication or distribution.

FY16 Recommended Themes

STAC is seeking creative proposals that address critical elements of effective Bay protection and restoration, including workshops that will stimulate new lines of thought or serve to enhance the science and tools of Bay research and management. STAC members have identified the themes below as suggested areas of interest for workshops in the upcoming year, and also support proposals that contribute to the overall goals of the Midpoint Assessment (<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/about/programs/tmdl/mpa>).

- Climate Change – its effects on restoration goals and actions in the Chesapeake watershed
- Adaptive management – and advancing the ability to effectively apply this approach
- Multiple stressors on living resources – advancing understanding and management implications
- Human dimensions – integration of social and economic issues into restoration
- Nutrient management – opportunities for innovation and addressing emerging issues of ecological and/or social change

Proposals for workshops that do not relate directly to the above themes are welcome; however, requestors should make a strong case as to the importance of their topic for the current year and why the workshop should be viewed as a priority for STAC.

Timeline for Proposal Submission

- December 14, 2015: Request for proposals is distributed to partnership
- January 25, 2016: All proposals are due to STAC Staff (dixonra@si.edu) in electronic format
- February 1, 2016: Proposal comments/necessary edits are returned by STAC Staff no later than this date
- February 16, 2016: Final proposals due to STAC
- March 7, 2016: STAC Members submit a preliminary score of final proposals
- March 15-16, 2016: STAC conducts merit reviews of the final proposals at their quarterly meeting, and workshop approval is determined
- June 1, 2016: Funding begins for approved workshops
- May 31, 2017: Deadline for workshop completion to receive funding

Proposals received after the deadline may be considered, if funding remains after considering the proposals submitted by January 25.