



FY 2026 Small Shipyard Grant Program (DTMASSG26)

Agency Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S. Department of Transportation
Program Description The Small Shipyard Grant Program provides grants to small shipyards (up to 1,200 production employees) for capital improvements that foster efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration, as well as maritime training programs to encourage technical skills and operational productivity. Funded under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (Pub. L. 119-75, February 3, 2026).

The purpose of the Small Shipyard Grant Program is to foster efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration in small shipyards across the United States in addition to developing employee skills and enhanced productivity related to shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries. The Department seeks to fund projects that advance the priorities of this Administration as described in DOT's mission statement and across executive orders. Award recipients will be expected to comply with the performance goals and reporting requirements as outlined in the executed grant agreement.

Application Due May 11, 2026, 12:00 p.m. (noon) E.D.T.

Total Funding \$35 million Max: \$1,000,000

Award Amount 35

Local Match: YES - Minimum 25% non-Federal cost share required. Third-party in-kind contributions are not allowed to satisfy the matching requirement.

Eligible Applicants Small shipyards as defined in 46 U.S.C. § 54101(h). The facility must be in a single geographic location with no more than 1,200 production employees. Applicants must be the operating company of the shipyard. Facilities must construct, repair, or reconfigure vessels ≥40 ft (commercial/government) or ≥100 ft (non-commercial). One application per eligible applicant; maximum one award per applicant.

Each eligible applicant may submit one application that contains multiple projects, but MARAD will make a maximum of one award per eligible applicant under this notice.

Eligible Activities/Projects (1) Capital Improvement Projects: Must advance efficiency, competitive operations, and quality in ship construction, repair, or reconfiguration. Funded items must be new and owned by the recipient. (2) Maritime Training Programs: Focus on developing employee skills and enhancing productivity in shipbuilding, ship repair, and related industries. Grant funds may NOT be used to construct buildings, other physical facilities, or to acquire land. All costs must be incurred after grant agreement execution date unless pre-approved by MARAD.

Review Criteria Merit Criteria (High/Medium/Low): Quantitative Analysis (High) - Project Description (Low) - Need (Medium) - Methodology & Timeline (Low) - Cost Itemization (Low). Additional Selection Considerations (among equally-meritorious projects): Higher non-Federal match percentage (>25%); domestic-content purchases; innovative technologies improving efficiency, safety, and resilience; geographic distribution of funds.

Link: https://simpler.grants.gov/opportunity/1f8d2e89-48a5-4ca9-942b-ed160d5a9182 https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants-finances/small-shipyard-grants

Application Submission Applications must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov. Applicants must obtain a UEI number and register in SAM.gov before submitting. SAM registration takes several weeks. Paper, fax, and email submissions are NOT accepted. Contact: David M. Heller, (202) 366-5737.

BAC Partnership Opportunity • The Build America Center (BAC) is a technical assistance program funded by the USDOT, offering grant development services to localities at NO CHARGE. For more information, please visit our websites: https://bac.umd.edu/ and https://billlaunchpad.com/

If your agency is interested in exploring this opportunity, contact us at bac@umd.edu for details on collaboration