

CA Sea Grant State Fellowship Program Informational Webinar



August 9, 2017 10 – 11am

Register for the webinar: <http://bit.ly/2vI105Y>

Call in #: 1-866-740-1260; Access code = 8222708

***If you have never used this program, you may be required to download a ReadyTalk program for the system to work.*

Webinar Objectives

- I. To briefly provide overview of California Sea Grant and Sea Grant network
- II. To describe in detail the state fellowship program opportunity offered through California Sea Grant
- III. Go over important application components and tips on preparation
- IV. Answer questions that potential applicants may have

Webinar Guidelines

- Phone lines muted during presentation
- Ask questions by using “Raise hand” button or chat dialogue
 - Unmute yourself by pressing *7
 - “Lower hand” and mute by pressing *6
- Designated question times
- Recording and presentation will be made available on CA Sea Grant website
- Please reserve very specific questions for email to Miho (sgfellow@ucsd.edu)

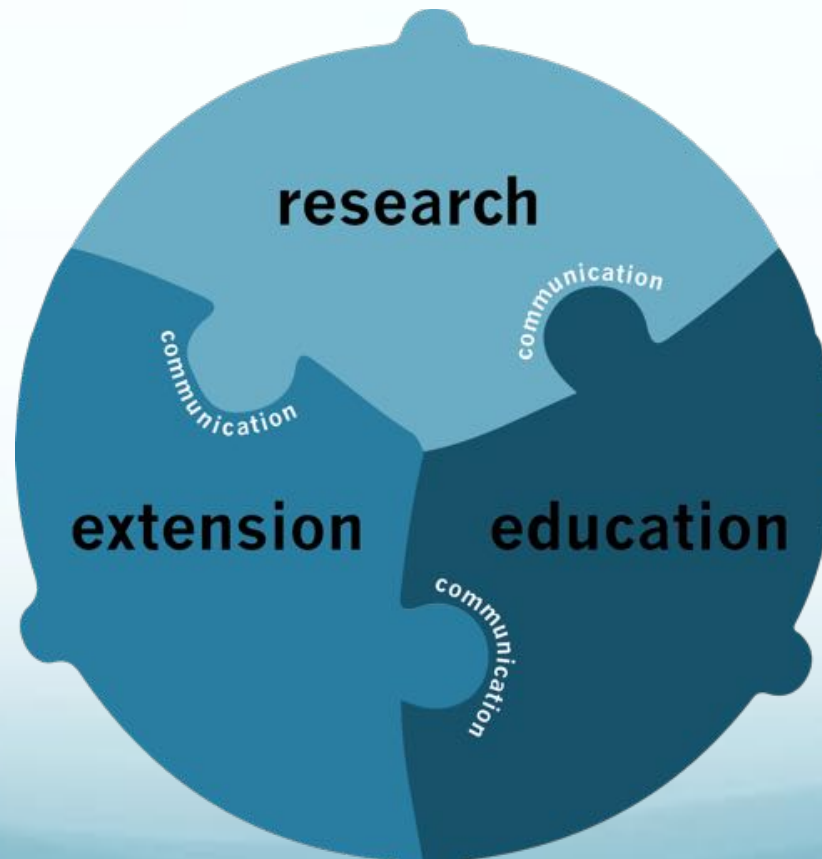
National Sea Grant College Program

- Partnership Program
- Regional networks
- Locally-based infrastructure



1966 SG Legislative Mandates

- National Sea Grant College and Program Act of 1966
 - Authorized the establishment and operation of SG colleges/programs
 - Initiate and support programs of research, extension, education and workforce development and communication



Sea Grant Programs in California



Extension Specialists

Our Focus Areas

Education

Healthy Coastal
Marine Ecosystems

Resilient Coastal
Ecosystems

Safe & Sustainable
Fisheries/Seafood



Core Values

Environmental
Stewardship

Long-term social &
Economic sustainability

Responsible use of
California's natural
resources

Questions?



Sea Grant Fellowships

- **Work Force Development Goal:** Increase research and education opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students
- Educating the next generation of marine and coastal scientists and policy makers.



CA Sea Grant State Fellowship

- Based on Knauss Fellowship
- Provides a one-year fellowship in a federal, state or municipal agency to learn about and work on implementation of marine policy and management in CA
- Supported 162 State Fellows since program inception in 1988



State Fellowship

Fellows are more than students or interns

- **Highly motivated and talented** recent graduate students with PhDs, Masters, or JDs that focus on marine- or aquatic-related fields
- Provide substantial **professional** contributions to the office
- Work alongside municipal, state and federal partners, and **learn about and help with the process of policy-making and resource management**



State Fellow Alicia Amerson is working with Senator Ben Allen from Santa Monica and Dr. Geoff Skelton from Oceano to get new fishing gear to remove drift gill nets from California waters.



Host Agency

- Supervise, mentor, and provide opportunities for fellows to be involved in critical issues that support the fellow's professional and educational goals
- Mentor Plan – helps establish goals and work to be performed by fellow



CA Sea Grant

- Payment of fellow's stipend, travel and health insurance reimbursement
- Provide support and guidance for both host agencies and fellows
- One in-person meeting with all state fellows and Sea Grant Extension staff
- At least two check-in meetings with all state fellows



Post-fellowship

2012 – 2016 State Fellows

Number of CASG State Fellows

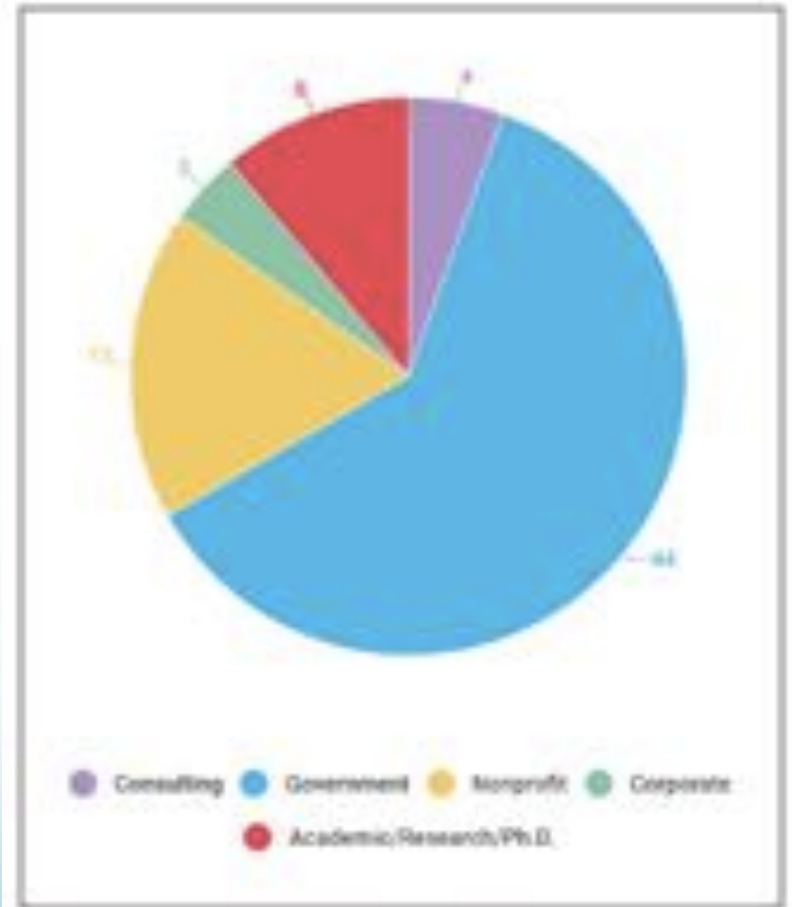
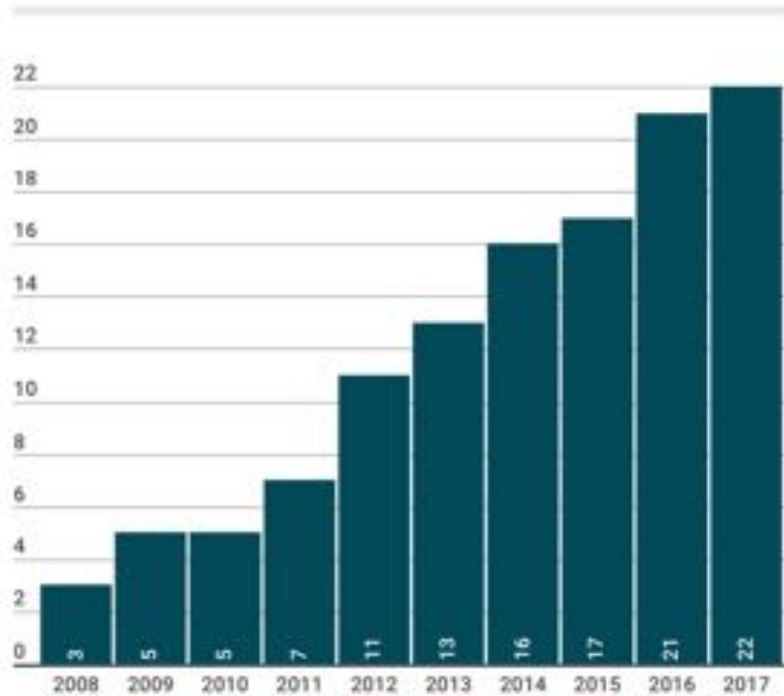


FIGURE 2. Initial career placement data of CASG State Fellows by Industry for 2012-2016 classes

Job Title	Organization	Fellowship Year
Environmental Specialist/Coastal Planner	Dudek	2016
Ocean Policy and Science Consultant	Tesla Foundation	2016
Research Ecologist	NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary	2016
Contractor	NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary	2016
Biologist	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	2016
Deputy Project Manager	State Lands Commission	2016
Project Scientist	Ocean Science Trust	2013, 2016
Project Manager	State Coastal Conservancy	2014, 2016
Larvae Technician	Taylor Shellfish	2016
Researcher/GIS Analyst	San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)	2016
Project Manager	Ocean Protection Council	2016
Ph.D. Candidate	University of California, Santa Cruz	2016
Postdoctoral Scholar	University of California, Davis	2016
Science, Research, and Policy Specialist	USC Sea Grant	2015
Sustainable Procurement Analyst	University of California, Santa Barbara	2015
Hydrologist	U.S. Geological Survey	2015
Project Manager	Point Blue Conservation Science	2015
Ecologist	California Coastal Commission	2015
Fish Biologist	NOAA Fisheries	2015

Questions?



2018 State Fellowship Timetable

1 September (11:59 pm PDT): Applications due to the California Sea Grant Office

7 – 22 September (approximate): Interviews for selection of finalists by California Sea Grant

29 September (approximate): Finalists are notified of status and finalist's applications distributed to participating hosts

24 -25 October (MANDATORY): Matching workshop in Sacramento with hosts and fellowship finalists.

15 November (approximate) – Fellow/host pairings announced

January 2018– March 2018: Fellowship begins (date negotiated between fellow and host agency)

2018 State Fellowship Award

- CASG will administer **\$50,900:**
 - **\$45,500 (\$3,792/month)** for stipend and living expenses
 - **\$3,000** to cover health insurance reimbursement
 - **\$2,400** to cover travel

Travel

- Matching workshop related expenses
- Fellowship related activities (meetings, workshops, symposia, SG Extension meeting)
- At its discretion, a host agency can add to this amount

2018 State Fellowship Award

- CASG will administer **\$3,000** to cover health insurance reimbursement. Health insurance is mandatory.
- YOUR name must be on the statement, you must be identified as the primary subscriber, AND the fellow must be identified as making the payment
- Sea Grant cannot reimburse payments made by a spouse, domestic partner or parent, even if the fellow is named on the policy

Participating Fellowships Hosts 2018

22 Fellowship Opportunities; 15 Host Agencies

1. California Coastal Commission* – Climate Change Emphasis
2. California Coastal Commission* – Coastal Engineer or Nearshore Oceanographer
3. California Department of Parks and Recreation – Natural Resources Division
4. California Fish and Game Commission
5. California Ocean Protection Council - 2 Fellowships in Climate Change Impacts and Marine Protected Areas/Fisheries Management
6. California Ocean Science Trust
7. California State Lands Commission
8. Delta Science Program – Adaptive Management & Independent Science Board
9. Delta Science Program – Science Plan & Science Infrastructure
10. Delta Science Program – Water Supply and Science Communication
11. Delta Stewardship Council – Planning Division
12. Office of Lt. Governor Newsom
13. State Coastal Conservancy - Climate Ready Program
14. State Coastal Conservancy - South Coast Program
15. San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
16. San Francisco Estuary Partnership
17. State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Water Quality
18. State Water Resources Control Board – Office of Information Management and Analysis
19. NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary - Resource Protection
20. NOAA NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center
21. Port of San Diego - 2 Fellowships total in Planning and Green Port (Aquaculture and Blue Technology Program)

**The CA Coastal Commission has two host descriptions but intends to fill only one fellowship opportunity.*



Questions?



Application

1. Curriculum Vitae (2 pages max)
2. A personal education and career goal statement (1000 words max)
3. Two letters of recommendation
4. Copy of undergraduate and graduate student transcripts. Unofficial copies will be accepted

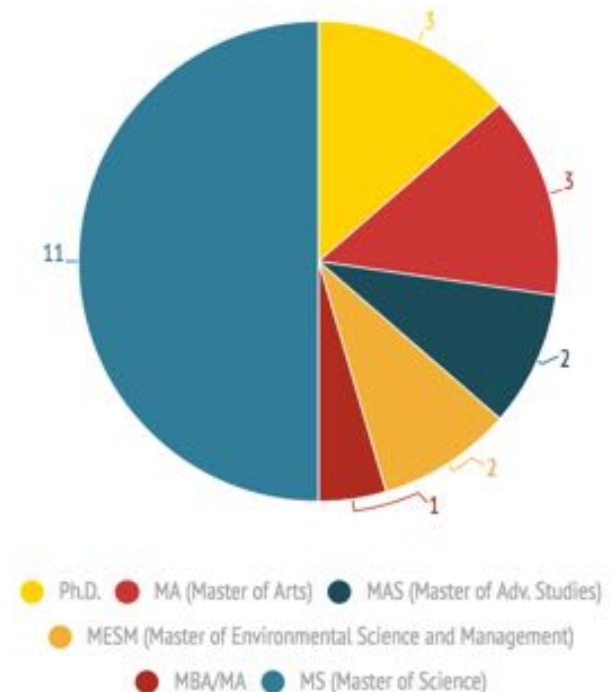
Applications must be submitted via eSeaGrant, CASG's on-line submission portal

Eligibility

- Applications may be submitted by a graduate student close to completing his/her degree (Masters, Ph.D., or J.D) in a marine or coastal-related field at a California university.
- Graduate students who recently completed their degree at a California university with graduation date [i.e. date diploma awarded by the university] after May 1, 2016 are also eligible to apply.

Fellows must complete all degree requirements before starting the fellowship.

2017 State Fellows: Graduate Degree Earned



Application Submission

- The electronic version of your application **must be submitted as PDFs** using the California Sea Grant submission link:

<http://eseagrant2.ucsd.edu>

- You will need to register for an account (click on the banner labeled “Register”) in eSeaGrant
- eSG instructions are available on our website
- Since this is a relatively new system, we encourage you to start and complete your submission well in advance of the deadline. Last minute submissions run the risk of encountering problems that cannot be resolved in time. **There will be no help available in the last 7+ hours before the deadline.**

State Fellowship Selection

Selection criteria includes:

- academic ability,
 - communication skills,
 - diversity and appropriateness of academic background,
 - career and education goals
 - additional qualifying experience, and
 - support of referees.
-
- Fellowship assignments based on interviews and ranking of preferences by both the finalists and participating hosts at a mandatory matching workshop (in Sacramento, October 24-25, 2017). **Finalists must attend.**
 - Placement to a specific host cannot be guaranteed.

Application Tips

View the application package as pieces of a jigsaw puzzle that reflect the best and complete picture of who you are. In most cases, your application package, and not the interview will determine if you will be selected as a member of the fellowship class.

So every piece of the puzzle counts!

Application Tips

Curriculum Vitae

- Diversity of activities, classes, extracurricular awards, and volunteer activities are good to show
- Consider including relevant experiences, even if they are not in marine science or policy; esp. if the experience demonstrates leadership, project management, communication or people skills
- Do not list all relevant coursework (the transcripts will reflect all courses)
- Include types of publications and presentations
- Clearly list honors and awards
- Do not exceed TWO pages using 12 pt. font with 1 inch margins; choose your words and presentations carefully

Application Tips

A personal education and career goal statement

- Addressing how your past experiences relate to the Fellowship is important, but also address how, as a result of this experience, your career could be enhanced
- Do not narrate your CV! Use this piece to highlight or describe something in the CV more in depth or something else all together
- The statement demonstrates your writing skill, thought process, your interests and passions, and most importantly, why you want to become a State Fellow
- **Stay within the word count (1,000 words)!**

Application Tips

Two letters of recommendation

- The strength and quality of the letter are more important than who wrote it
- Show diversity as to who writes your letters (one must be your advisor)
- Make sure to ask the people who know you best and think highly of you
 - Template letters with name, course title, and grade will pretty much ensure that you will not be selected as one of the finalists
- Letter from your advisor- the emphasis should be on you, and not solely about your thesis project

Evaluation

- Was the Goal Statement specific, direct, and concise while discussing what the applicant would bring to and gain from the Fellowship?
- Was a career or life goal stated?
- Did the applicant have volunteer and extracurricular activities? Leadership experience?
- Did the recommendation letters demonstrate knowledge of the applicant and his/her abilities?

Evaluation

- Did the applicant have a diverse background including a diversity of classes (balanced and appropriate coursework)?
- What was the strength of the academic achievement?
- Were acronyms defined?
- Were there misspelled words and/or grammatical errors?

Questions?



Interested in Applying for a State Fellowship?

<https://caseagrants.ucsd.edu>

Miho Ligare

Fellowship & Research Coordinator

sgfellow@ucsd.edu

(858) 534-1160

Thank You!

