

14 FDMS, accessible through [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). To facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

(Authority: 49 CFR 1.93).

Dated: March 5, 2019.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2019-04176 Filed 3-7-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2019-0030]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel ISLAND GIRL (53' Motor Vessel); Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirements of the coastwise trade laws to allow the carriage of no more than twelve passengers for hire on vessels, which are three years old or more. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before April 8, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket Number MARAD-2019-0030 by any one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Search MARAD-2019-0030 and follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail or Hand Delivery:* Docket Management Facility is in the West Building, Ground Floor of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Docket Management Facility location address is: U.S. Department of Transportation, MARAD-2019-0030, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.,

Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

*Note:* If you mail or hand-deliver your comments, we recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and specific docket number. All comments received will be posted without change to the docket at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the section entitled Public Participation.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email [Bianca.carr@dot.gov](mailto:Bianca.carr@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel ISLAND GIRL is:

- Intended Commercial use of Vessel:* “Passenger and recreational fishing charter”
- Geographic Region Including Base of Operations:* “Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina” (Base of Operations: Fort Lauderdale, FL)
- Vessel Length and Type:* 53' motor vessel

The complete application is available for review identified in the DOT docket as MARAD-2019-0030 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the vessel name, state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in section 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

#### Public Participation

##### *How do I submit comments?*

Please submit your comments, including the attachments, following the instructions provided under the above heading entitled **ADDRESSES**. Be advised

that it may take a few hours or even days for your comment to be reflected on the docket. In addition, your comments must be written in English. We encourage you to provide concise comments and you may attach additional documents as necessary. There is no limit on the length of the attachments.

##### *Where do I go to read public comments, and find supporting information?*

Go to the docket online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, keyword search MARAD-2019-0030 or visit the Docket Management Facility (see **ADDRESSES** for hours of operation). We recommend that you periodically check the Docket for new submissions and supporting material.

##### *Will my comments be made available to the public?*

Yes. Be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, will be made publicly available.

##### *May I submit comments confidentially?*

If you wish to submit comments under a claim of confidentiality, you should submit three copies of your complete submission, including the information you claim to be confidential business information, to the Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, Office of Legislation and Regulations, MAR-225, W24-220, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Include a cover letter setting forth with specificity the basis for any such claim and, if possible, a summary of your submission that can be made available to the public.

#### Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice, DOT/ALL-14 FDMS, accessible through [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). To facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

(Authority: 49 CFR 1.93(a), 46 U.S.C. 55103, 46 U.S.C. 12121)

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Dated: March 5, 2019.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

#### Small Shipyard Grant Program; Application Deadlines

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration,  
Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of Small Shipyard Grant  
Application deadlines.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Small Shipyard Grant Program, \$19,600,000 is currently available for grants for capital and related improvements to qualified shipyard facilities that will be effective in fostering efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration. This notice announces the intention of the Maritime Administration to provide grants to small shipyards. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 20.814. Potential applicants are advised that it is expected, based on experience, that the aggregate amount of requested funding among all applicants will far exceed the funds available and that only a small percentage of applications will be funded. It is anticipated that roughly 10–20 applications will be selected for funding with an average grant amount of about \$1 million.

#### Timing of Grant Applications

In accordance with the statutory requirement that applications must be submitted within 60 days of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Pub. L. 116–6), applications must be received by the Maritime Administration by 5:00 p.m. EDT on April 16, 2019. Applications received later than this time will not be considered. The Administrator shall award grants under this section not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of the appropriations Act for the fiscal year concerned.

**ADDRESSES:** Grant Applications should be sent to the Associate Administrator for Business and Finance Development, Room W21–318, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Only applicants who comply with all submission requirements described in this notice will be eligible for award.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information concerning this notice, please contact David M. Heller, Director, Office of Shipyards and Marine Engineering, Maritime Administration, Room W21–318, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366–5737; or fax: (202) 366–6988.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Grants under the Maritime Administration's Small Shipyard Grant Program may not be used to construct buildings or other physical facilities or to acquire land. Grant funds may be used for maritime training programs to foster employee skills and enhanced productivity related to shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries. Grants for such training programs may only be awarded to "Eligible Applicants" as described below, but training programs can be established through vendors to such applicants.

#### Table of Contents

- A. Program Description
- B. Federal Award Information
- C. Eligibility Information
- D. Application and Submission Information
- E. Application Review Information
- F. Federal Award Administration Information
- G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts
- H. Other Information

#### A. Program Description

The Small Shipyard Grant Program was authorized under Section 3501 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232), codified at 46 U.S.C. 54101. The statute authorizes the Maritime Administrator to provide assistance in the form of grants to make capital and related improvements in small shipyards and to provide training for workers in shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, appropriated \$20,000,000 to the Small Shipyard Grant Program. The purpose of the Program is to foster efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and reconfiguration in small shipyards across the United States in addition to fostering employee skills and enhanced productivity related to shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries.

#### B. Federal Award Information

Under the Small Shipyard Grant Program, \$19,600,000 is available for grants for: (1) Capital and related improvements to qualified shipyard facilities that will be effective in fostering efficiency, competitive operations, and quality ship construction, repair, and

reconfiguration; and (2) training projects that would be effective in fostering employee skills and enhanced productivity related to shipbuilding, ship repair, and associated industries. The Maritime Administration intends to award the full amount of the available funding through grants to the extent that there are worthy applications. No more than 25 percent of the funds available will be awarded to shipyard facilities in one geographic location that have more than 600 production employees. The Maritime Administration will seek to obtain the maximum benefit from the available funding by awarding grants to as many of the worthiest projects as possible. The Maritime Administration may partially fund applications by selecting parts of the total project.

The start date and period of performance for each award will depend on the specific project and must be agreed to by the Maritime Administration. The Maritime Administration will administer each Small Shipyard Grant pursuant to a grant agreement with the Small Shipyard Grant recipient. Amounts awarded as a grant under this notice that are not expended by the recipient shall remain available to the Administrator for use for grants under this program, either in the same or different fiscal year as this notice.

#### C. Eligibility Information

To be selected for a Small Shipyard Grant, an applicant must be an Eligible Applicant and the project must be an Eligible Project.

##### 1. Eligible Applicants

Section 54101, Title 46, United States Code, provides that shipyards can apply for grants. The shipyard facility for which a grant is sought must be in a single geographic location and may not have more than 1,200 production employees. The applicant must be the operating company of the shipyard facility. The shipyard facility must construct, repair, or reconfigure vessels 40 feet in length or greater for commercial or government use, or construct, repair, or reconfigure vessels 100 feet in length or greater for non-commercial vessels.

##### 2. Cost Sharing or Matching

The Federal funds for any eligible project will not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of such project. The remaining portion of the cost shall be paid in funds from or on behalf of the recipient. The applicant is required to submit detailed financial statements and supporting documentation demonstrating how and when such matching requirement is