

A person's hands are shown holding a small globe of the Earth. The globe is centered on North America, with labels for 'CANADA', 'NORTH AMERICA', and 'UNITED STATES'. The background is a blurred image of a person's face and hands. Overlaid on the image are two light blue circles and a yellow circle. The text 'State Guide' is in a large, bold, white font, and 'A Collaborative Opportunity!' is in a slightly smaller, bold, white font below it. A blue rectangular box contains the text 'Input Needed' in white, with a yellow circle to its left.

State Guide

A Collaborative Opportunity!

Input Needed



“The best way to predict the future is to
create it.”

— Peter Drucker




TikTok
@ladbibleaustralia

Important



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
United States
Coast Guard



Commandant
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COMMANDANT PUBLICATION 16755.3B

Subj: STATE RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY GRANT PROGRAMS

1. **PURPOSE.** This Publication provides a reference to the laws, regulations, and guidelines that govern the acceptance of State Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) programs and the administration of grant funding that is available to eligible States (as defined in Chapter 1). It will assist the States in applying for and administering funds provided under the National Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) State Grant Program.
2. **ACTION.** All States will comply with the provisions of this Publication. All Coast Guard personnel will use this Publication as a reference when providing guidance to State RBS Programs. Internet release is authorized.
3. **DIRECTIVES AFFECTED.** The State Recreational Boating Safety Programs "State Guide," COMDTPUB 16755.3A, is hereby cancelled.
4. **OBJECTIVE.** The goal of the program is to encourage the States to assume the primary role in carrying out boating safety activities within their jurisdictions. This Publication provides key elements and requirements for program approval, and it describes monitoring and enforcement actions that may be taken by the Coast Guard.
5. **DISCUSSION**
 - a. The major functions of the National RBS Program are to encourage greater State participation and uniformity in boating safety efforts and particularly to permit the States to assume the greater share of boating education, assistance, and enforcement activities.
 - b. The Secretary of Homeland Security has delegated the authority to administer the State RBS programs and funds to the USCG. Commandant (CG-BSX-2) is responsible for administration of the State RBS Grant Program. Within Headquarters, the day-to-day program administration is managed by the Program Management and Operations Branch (CG-BSX-21) and the financial administration is managed by the Grants Management Branch (CG-BSX-22) of the Boating Safety Division (CG-BSX-2) of the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety (CG-BSX). State applications for grant funding and the associated financial reports are submitted to Commandant (CG-BSX-21 and CG-BSX-

COMDTPUB 16755.3C – State Guide

Has provided the guidelines by which each of our grant programs is governed and its performance is gauged against.

What the State Guide Includes

1

State RBS
Program
Requirements

2

Allocations

3

Financial
Administration

4

Procurement,
Facilities, and
Public Access
Sites

5

Reporting &
Record Retention
and
Enforcement
Actions



#1

Program Requirements.

Appeals Process



Two Distinct Processes

Appeals Process

Grant Impacting Decisions
Being Challenged

Dispute Resolution Process

Program Impacting
Decisions Being Challenged



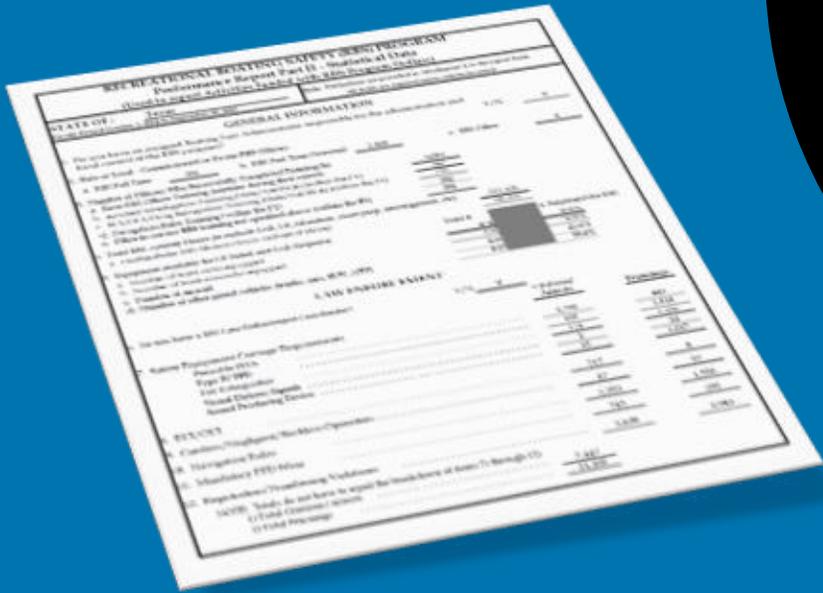
Dispute Resolution Process

In 2025 the Finance and Grants Committee provided a recommendation to facilitate a programmatic disputes process not to be confused with the Appeals Process already in the Guide.



Step One: Branch Chief
Step Two: Division Chief
Step Three: Office Chief





#5

Reporting Requirements.

Performance Report Part II

Proposed Revised PRPII at 2025 Workshop

USCG RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM Performance Report Part II – Statistical Data

STATE	REPORTING PERIOD
	OCT 1, to SEP 30,

Note: Definitions are provided as Attachment A to the report form. All fields are required unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. State Agency responsible for administration of RBS Program
2. Do you have a Boating Law Administrator (BLA)?
3. Name of BLA BLA since:

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY, TRAINING & OUTREACH

1. Do you have a boating Safety Education Coordinator?
2. Number of In-Person Courses conducted last fiscal year for each of the groups listed below:
 State Personnel: USPS: Aux: Other:
3. Persons attending a State Approved/ANSI Standard course:
 Classroom: Home Study: Internet:
 State CGAux USPS
4. Number of Boater Education Certificates issued last fiscal year for each delivery format listed below.
 Classroom: Online: Home Study:
5. Does the State have a Dealer Outreach Program (can include USCGAux/USPS)?
 If "Yes", how many Dealer Visits were performed during reporting period?
6. Does the State have an In-School Boater Education Program?
 If "Yes", how many School Visits were performed during reporting period?
7. Number of Public Service Announcements
8. Public Service Announcements produced, aired, or published:
 a. PSA - TV (including social marketing components)
 b. PSA - Radio (including social marketing components)
 c. PSA - Newspaper/Magazine (including social marketing component)
9. Number of hits to online articles, website pages of boater education
10. Distribution quantity of RBS materials (to include booklets, pamphlets, flyers, trinkets, etc.)
11. Does your State have bilingual for the
 Courses? Registration forms?
 Signage? Boating information?

PUBLIC ACCESS

1. Number of boating access sites paid for and maintained by the State
2. Number of boating access sites paid for by the State and maintained by another agency
3. Number of ramps (slides) that are for human propelled vessels only

REGISTRATIONS

1. State Agency responsible for vessel registrations
2. Is the State UCOTA-V compliant
 a. Date State was UCOTA-V certified by the USCG:
3. Does the State share registration information of out-of-state vessels with other states?
 a. If "Yes", how many out-of-state vessels registered with your State during the past reporting period?
4. Does the State participate in the Vessel Identification System (VIS)?

LAW ENFORCEMENT

1. Do you have an RBS Law Enforcement Coordinator?
2. Number of State or Local - Commissioned or Sworn RBS Officers:

$$\frac{(B_1(2) + B_2 + A + V) 360,000^*}{\text{\# of Registered Boats}} = P_2$$

$$\frac{240,000^* (L_1 + L_2 + L_3)}{\text{\# of Registered Boats}} = P_1$$



$$\frac{(\text{Total \# of RBS officers receiving training}) \times 15^*}{L_4} = P_6$$

$$\frac{(\text{\# pieces distributed}) \times 16^*}{\text{\# Registered Boats}} = P_{10}$$

Criteria to Determine State RBS Program Eligibility **PERFORMANCE REPORT PART II**

$$\frac{C \times 1200^*}{\text{\# of Registered Boats}} = P_3$$

$$(\text{Total \# of Officers Trained}) \times 60^* = P_5$$

$$L_1 + L_2 + L_3$$

L₁ = Full Time RBS Officers

L₂ = Part Time/Seasonal RBS Officers

L₃ = Other RBS Officers

P₅ = Total points awarded not to exceed 60

$$\frac{E_1 \times 5,000^*}{\text{\# Registered Boats}} = P_7$$

For a State to have an “adequate” program under 46 U.S.C. Chapter 131, it must demonstrate that it:

- Properly numbers vessels
- Actively enforces boating safety laws
- Provides real boating safety education
- Reports accidents accurately
- Coordinates with the Coast Guard
- Uses grant funds responsibly and matches them with State resources



**RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM
PERFORMANCE REPORT SUMMARY
STATE OF TEXAS
FOR THE PERIOD OCT. 1, 2024, TO SEPT. 30, 2025**

The following is a summary of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Recreational Boating Safety Program (RBS) Federal Fiscal year 2025 (FFY-25) accomplishments of the RBS Grant Program. In FFY-25 TPWD received \$4,984,420 from the federal grant and matched that with \$20,724,833 in state dollars.

This year's grant included approved equipment purchases with an allocation ratio of 25.62% toward the grant. Items identified and approved for purchase included five hundred and fifty-two (552) tasers systems, three hundred sixty-five (365) ballistic plate systems, thirty-five (35) patrol boats, and ten (10) outboard motors. All patrol vehicles were received within the period of performance.

**2025 RBS PERFORMANCE SUMMARY
MARINE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY**

CATEGORY	FFY 2025
WATER SAFETY CONTACTS (# of Persons)	626,135
VESSEL BOARDINGS/INSPECTIONS (# of Vessels)	96,925
BOATING SAFETY CITATIONS	7,447
BOATING SAFETY WARNINGS	11,168
REGISTERED BOATS	545,272
BOATING ACCIDENTS	135
BOATING RELATED INJURIES	66
BOATING RELATED FATALITIES	30
RECREATIONAL BOAT ASSISTS	1,839
SEARCH AND RECOVERY OPS	1,432
BOAT PATROL HOURS	88,218
BOARDINGS/INSPECTIONS PER PATROL HOUR	1
PERCENTAGE OF REGISTERED BOATS BOARDED	17.8%

**RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY (RBS) PROGRAM
Performance Report Part II - Statistical Data
(Used to report Activities funded with RBS Program Dollars)**

STATE OF: Texas Note: Definitions are provided as Attachment A to the report form.
For the Period October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025 All fields are required unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Do you have an assigned Boating Law Administrator responsible for the administration and fiscal control of the RBS program? Y/N Y
- State or Local - Commissioned or Sworn RBS Officers

a. RBS Full Time <u>551</u>	b. RBS Part Time/Seasonal <u>1,860</u>	c. RBS Other <u>0</u>
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- Number of Officers Who Successfully Completed Training In:

a. Basic RBS Officer Training (anytime during their career)	<u>6,054</u>
b. Accident Investigation Training (State/NASBLA) (within the FY)	<u>242</u>
c. BUI/OUI/Drug Recognition Training (State/NASBLA) (within the FY)	<u>793</u>
d. Navigation Rules Training (within the FY)	<u>242</u>
e. Other in-service RBS training not specified above (within the FY)	<u>551</u>
- Total RBS Activity Hours (to include SAR, LE, education, court prep, investigations, etc) 322,428

a. On-the-Water RBS Mission Hours (subset of above)	<u>88,218</u>
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- Equipment available for LE Patrol and SAR Response

	Total #	% Employed for RBS
a. Number of boats radio equipped	<u>474</u>	<u>50.0%</u>
b. Number of boats non-radio equipped	<u>156</u>	<u>50.0%</u>
c. Number of aircraft	<u>156</u>	<u>25.6%</u>
d. Number of other patrol vehicles (trucks, cars, SUV, ATV)	<u>842</u>	<u>25.6%</u>

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Do you have a RBS Law Enforcement Coordinator? Y/N Y
 - Safety Equipment Carriage Requirements

	Citations/ Arrests	Warnings
Wearable PFDs	<u>1,790</u>	<u>443</u>
Type IV PFD	<u>102</u>	<u>1,315</u>
Fire Extinguisher	<u>124</u>	<u>1,636</u>
Visual Distress Signals	<u>2</u>	<u>14</u>
Sound Producing Device	<u>15</u>	<u>1,017</u>
 - BUI/OUI 217 0
 - Careless/Negligent/Reckless Operation 47 52
 - Navigation Rules 1,353 1,558
 - Mandatory PFD Wear 745 195
 - Registration/Numbering Violations 1,630 3,943
- NOTE: Totals do not have to equal the breakdown of items 7) through 12).
- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1) Total Citations/Arrests | <u>7,447</u> |
| 2) Total Warnings | <u>11,168</u> |

SOME IDEAS

Program Leadership & Governance

- How does the State demonstrate clear leadership and accountability for its recreational boating safety program?
- How does the tenure and institutional experience of program leadership contribute to program stability, effectiveness, and the ability to sustain long-term recreational boating safety initiatives?
- In what ways does the Designated State Authority ensure coordination across enforcement, education, registration, and reporting functions?
- How does the program engage with the Coast Guard District and other partners to maintain alignment and reciprocity?

Enforcement Presence & Effectiveness

- How does the State ensure a visible and credible boating safety enforcement presence on its waters?
- In what ways does enforcement activity focus on behaviors that contribute most to accidents and fatalities (e.g., impairment, life jacket wear, reckless operation)?
- How does the program assess whether its enforcement approach is improving compliance and boater behavior?

Resource Stewardship & Sustainability

- How does the State ensure that grant funds and matching funds are used to directly support boating safety outcomes?
- In what ways does the program evaluate whether resources are aligned with its highest-risk areas or most pressing needs?
- How does the State plan for long-term sustainability of its boating safety efforts?

Accident Reporting & Risk Awareness

- How does the State ensure timely, accurate reporting of boating accidents and marine casualties?
- How is accident data used to inform enforcement priorities, education efforts, or policy decisions?
- What steps are taken to improve reporting compliance and data quality?

Boating Safety Education & Outreach

- How does the State make boating safety education accessible to boaters throughout the year and across geographic regions?
- In what ways does the program ensure its education courses meet or exceed nationally recognized standards?

When would this Take Effect?

- **The State Guide is Anticipated to be revised by Oct. 2026**
- **The New Performance Reporting would roll out the earliest in the FY28 NOFO**





YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!!!



Microsoft Teams Meeting

March 26th

5:00pm (EST)

4:00pm (CST)

3:00pm (MST)

2:00pm (PST)

12:00pm (Hawaii)

1:00pm (Alaska)

8:00am (Guam)

I Don't Know (Arizona)



ANY QUESTIONS?