

**National Oceanographic Partnership Act**

**Agencies:** Collaboration of several federal government agencies

**Citation:** [10 U.S.C. §§ 7901 et seq.](#)

**Enacted as:** the “National Oceanographic Partnership Program”, on September 23, 1996 by [Public Law 104-201](#), Title II, Subtitle E, Section 281-282

**Summary:**

The [National Oceanographic Partnership Program \(NOPP\)](#), as amended by [Public Law 105-85](#) in 1997, created a collaboration of federal agencies to provide leadership and coordination of national oceanographic research and education initiatives. NOPP Research encompasses numerous areas, including oceanographic research and exploration, technology development, resource management, and ocean education; their focus areas have led to community advances in oceanography and impacts on society. The NOPP focuses on ocean-related objectives that are too large for single agencies to undertake, but satisfy multiple agency missions and would benefit from partnerships between government, private industry, and academia.

Using a [peer-review process](#), the NOPP identifies and funds the most scientifically and technically meritorious research that clearly demonstrates public/private sector partnerships in the areas of interest each year. The NOPP also encourages projects with an explicit component that addresses public education as well as serving scientific research. To help promote education, the NOPP is a sponsor of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl, a national academic competition for high school students on topics related to the study of the oceans.

**Source:** <http://www.nopp.org/about-nopp/program-overview/>

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