

## **Nonprofit Organization Grants:**

Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety  
Recreational Boating Safety

Federal Grant Title:	National Non-Profit Organization Grant Program
Federal Agency:	United States Coast Guard
Funding Opportunity Number:	DHS-USCG-2023-001
Type of Funding:	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA Numbers:	97.012
CFDA Descriptions:	Boating Safety Financial Assistance

Grantee: American Canoe Association (ACA)  
Grant Number: 70Z02323MO0001517  
Grant Title: Expanding Virtual Paddling Education  
Period of Performance: 1 year grant

Award Amount: \$175,000.00

### **Summary:**

The project, *Expanding Virtual Paddling Education*, is an exciting endeavor which will leverage the success of ACA's successful Paddlesport Safety Facilitator (PSF) online course program through expansion of curriculum regarding angling equipment management and safety, self and assisted rescue techniques, and nautical rules of the road. A parallel active and innovative marketing strategy will drive new and experienced paddlers to the simple and effective web-based learning management system and provide opportunity to engage with free coursework about all or any of these expanded content areas.

#### *Paddlesports Safety Facilitator (PSF) Online Course*

The PSF online course teaches basic safety and paddling knowledge, trip planning, group management, and rescue priorities for canoeing, kayaking, and stand up paddleboarding (SUP). This course is appropriate for the staff of liveries, outfitters, parks and recreation sites, rental companies, guide services, and related recreational boating safety agencies such as the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. The course has also been successful for members of the general public that wanted to have a comprehensive knowledge base of on-water safety and best practices for enjoyable paddling.

#### *Online Course Curriculum Expansion*

Expansion of the online course will provide critical tools for the successful navigation of frequent paddler scenarios, and it will produce record numbers of content engagement, knowledge of rescue techniques and incident management, and skill development opportunities for all paddlers, especially those within the fast-growing market segments of paddlecraft anglers and multi-use waterway trip leaders and guides. In partnership with a robust marketing strategy, this project will bring accessible and engaging paddlecraft angling, rescue techniques, and nautical rules of the road education opportunities directly to the phone, tablet, or desktop computer of thousands of new, novice, and intermediate paddlers from all over the country.

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