

Scientific Ocean Drilling Coordination Office

SODCO Expedition Budget Responsibilities

March 26, 2026

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) Scientific Ocean Drilling Coordination Office (SODCO) will receive a funding increment from the NSF to support a range of activities related to an expedition that are SODCO responsibilities. Principal Investigators (PIs) do not need to budget for the following SODCO budget responsibilities:

- | Permitting/clearance activities and costs
- | Contracting vessels/drilling/coring/logging systems
- | Travel
 - PI/Co-chief Scientist travel to Texas A&M University for the pre-expedition planning and SODCO Safety and Environment Panel (SSEP) meetings
 - All travel (entire science team, including PIs) to and from the expedition, for both offshore phase and onshore phase at NSF Gulf Coast Repository (GCR)
 - All travel for sailing SODCO and GCR technical staff and SODCO outreach officers to and from the expedition, for both offshore and onshore phases
- | Science team seagoing medical exams
- | Salary support for community staffed members of the science team [PIs and their student(s)/postdoc(s) salary are not supported under SODCO.]
- | GCR instrumentation fees for onshore and offshore analyses, which include supplies and consumables
- | Shipping costs for SODCO-provided containers, GCR instrumentation, and SODCO-contracted equipment and supplies. [See the *SODCO Third Party Tool Policy* for responsibilities for items not contracted by SODCO.]
- | Salary support for sailing SODCO and GCR technical staff
- | Support for outreach officers staffed to SODCO-implemented expeditions, including for their expedition-dedicated time and for modest communications projects related to expedition science