

(5) Financial assistance under this Act may only be awarded for a project of a local jurisdiction on land owned or to be owned by the local jurisdiction in the Chesapeake Bay Shoreline.

(6) A State grant for a project under this Act may not exceed 75 percent of the eligible costs. A State grant to a single local jurisdiction under this Act may not exceed 25 percent of the aggregate principal amount of the general obligation bonds authorized to be issued under this loan.

(7) A project is eligible for financial assistance under this Act only if the Secretary of Natural Resources determines that the project is not eligible for funding under any of the following programs:

(a) The State share of Program Open Space as set forth in Title 5, Subtitle 9 of the Natural Resources Article;

(b) The Waterway Improvement Program as set forth in Title 8, Subtitle 7 of the Natural Resources Article;

(c) The Flood Control and Water Management Program as set forth in Title 8, Subtitle 9A of the Natural Resources Article;

(d) The Shore Erosion Control program as set forth in Title 8, Subtitle 10 of the Natural Resources Article.

(8) In determining awards of financial assistance for projects under this Act, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall consider the degree to which a proposed project:

(a) protects, improves, or restores scenic qualities;

(b) protects, improves, or restores water quality;

(c) protects, improves, or restores habitat for wildlife and aquatic resources; and

(d) promotes public appreciation, awareness and understanding of the Chesapeake Bay.

(9) The Secretary of Natural Resources shall provide each local jurisdiction with notice of the date or dates for applications for financial assistance under this Act. Applications shall be filed with the Secretary of Natural Resources. Each application shall provide such information as the Secretary determines is necessary to evaluate the project in accordance with the provisions of this Act. The Secretary, in conjunction with the Secretaries of Health and Mental Hygiene and State Planning, and the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee, shall establish an interdepartmental review group to evaluate applications and make recommendations to the Secretary for project funding under this Act.