



**SEAFOOD
ENGINE**
In New England

Managing Director

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Seafood Engine in New England (<https://seafoodengine.org>) is looking for an experienced, dynamic, and driven Managing Director. Led by the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS), the Seafood Engine is an emerging innovation ecosystem and the only blue economy program with the NSF Regional Innovation Engines program. The Engine brings together premier R&D universities and educational institutions; industry, economic development, and community organizations; and government agencies to stimulate transformative technological innovation across the seafood supply chain. In doing so, the Engine aims to advance competitiveness, profitability, and workforce development jointly in the U.S. seafood industry and blue tech sector, regionally and nationally. The Managing Director will play a leadership role in managing, evolving, and growing the innovation ecosystem. This will involve both logistical and strategic duties needed to organize people, projects, and activities within the Engine partnership and shape the evolution and long-term vision of the Engine. This is an outstanding opportunity for an emerging leader looking for a new challenge at the outset of what aims to be an ambitious, long-term initiative. This position will serve as a deputy and report to the Engine Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Core responsibilities include:

- Work closely with the Engine CEO on oversight of all Engine activities, strategies, people, and deliverables, including a combination of direct responsibility for certain duties and management of partners and consultants responsible for others.
- Organize the major Engine governance bodies, including the Leadership Team, Governance Board, Government Relations Council, and others that might be formed by maintaining membership rosters, organizing meeting calendars and meeting logistics, and ensuring that meeting notes and action items are recorded and communicated.
- Track and support progress on major components of the innovation ecosystem (Research, Development & Translation; Workforce Development; Strategic Regional Investment; Regional Engagement; Evaluation) and projects and activities within each against work plans and budgets, working with collaborators to address and rectify any issues that arise.
- Develop strong and respectful working relationships with fellow full-time Engine staff, ensuring that an effective team sits at the hub of the innovation ecosystem.
- Represent the Engine at key meetings and events regionally, nationally, and occasionally internationally, serving as a compelling ambassador for the Engine and channeling new ideas and information back into Engine activities and strategies.
- Manage and contribute to production of key Engine deliverables, including progress reports and plans, tracking collaborator contributions against timelines and deadlines, and ensuring that high-quality products are delivered in a timely manner.
- Provide other services as needed in support of the strategic and operational priorities of the Engine.



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Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in a relevant field such science, technology, or business administration.
- Minimum of five years of leadership experience at the Manager level or higher within a company, academic institution, or nonprofit organization.
- Strong organizational skills including program, project, and personnel management experience.
- Strategic and critical thinking with the ability to channel concepts and experiences into the development, execution, and evolution of action plans.
- Ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a dynamic team.
- High level analytical skills, excellent judgement, and creative problem-solving skills.

Additional Information:

Salary: This is a grant-funded position, with a budgeted salary up to \$120,000, commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate. The initial appointment is subject to renewal of the Engine for its second award period commencing on, or around, September 1, 2027, with the potential for subsequent renewal up to a total program duration of ten years based on performance and availability of funds. The ideal candidate will be instrumental in driving the development and success of the organization, with the opportunity to transition into a longer-term role over the full ten-year duration of the Engine if key milestones are achieved.

Benefits: NERACOOS offers a benefits package that includes medical insurance and a health savings account, a simplified employee pension following three years of service, professional development opportunities, and flex work schedules.

Location: The successful candidate will be a NERACOOS employee and ideally be based close to the NERACOOS office in Portsmouth, NH. Other locations within the Engine region of service (Rhode Island to Maine) can be considered, contingent upon the ability to periodically travel to Portsmouth for face-to-face interactions with colleagues. Additional travel within the region to meet with partners, contractors, and vendors, and nationally (especially to Washington, DC) for agency meetings may be required periodically.

To apply, please send a cover letter of no more than two pages describing interest and qualifications, along with a resume including names and contact information for three professional references to Seafood.Engine@neracoos.org. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is found.

Thinking about applying?

If you're reading this and you have some of the qualifications listed, we encourage you to apply! Let us know how your experience and passion make you the right person for this job.