



Subject Specific Grant Guide

Grants to Support Hydropower and Dam Projects

This guide identifies funding opportunities released in the previous year. Please note that this guide may not capture all available funding opportunities. Additionally, some programs may have changed or may not be released due to shifting administrative priorities among funding agencies. The grants included here represent traditionally offered opportunities intended to serve as a reliable foundation for your funding research.

March 2026

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Department: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

FY 2024 Section 205 – Flood Damage Reduction Projects

Grant Overview

Section 205 of the 1948 Flood Control Act authorizes the Corps of Engineers to plan, design, and construct structural and non-structural flood control projects in partnership with nonfederal government agencies, such as cities, counties, special authorities, or units of state government. Projects are planned and designed under this authority to provide the same complete flood risk management project that would be provided under specific congressional authorizations. Eligible applicants are non-federal government agencies, such as cities, counties, special authorities, or units of state government that partner with The Corps of Engineers.

Program History

	Total Funding Per Project	# of Awards
2021	\$10 million	N/A

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Up to \$10 million

Match: Varies

Solicitation date/Proposal Due: Rolling

- An interested project sponsor must first submit written request, and when funding is available, the Corps initiates a preliminary analysis to determine if a potential project meets program requirements and federal participation is justified.

More information on this program can be found [here](#).



US Army Corps of Engineers®

Awardee Profile

Sims Bayou Federal Damage Reduction Project

Harris County, TX

YEAR: 2019

The project includes 19.3 miles of bayou enlargements and environmental enhancements along Sims Bayou from the Houston Ship Channel to Croquet Lane, just west of South Post Oak Road and the replacement of modification of 22 bridges that cross Sims Bayou.

Department: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

FY 2024 Section 205 – Flood Damage Reduction Projects

Detailed Summary

Section 205 of the 1948 Flood Control Act authorizes the Corps of Engineers to plan, design, and construct structural and nonstructural flood control projects in partnership with nonfederal government agencies, such as cities, counties, special authorities, or units of state government. Projects are planned and designed under this authority to provide the same complete flood risk management project that would be provided under specific congressional authorizations. Each project must be economically justified, environmentally sound, and technically feasible. Each project must be economically justified, environmentally sound, and technically feasible.

Flood risk management projects are not limited to any particular type of improvement. Levee and channel modifications are examples of flood risk management projects constructed utilizing the Section 205 authority.

In response to a written request from a potential nonfederal sponsor, the Corps conducts an initial appraisal to determine whether the project meets program criteria and provides a basis for determining scope and cost of an entire feasibility study. If a federal interest is verified, a feasibility study occurs that identifies and comprehensively evaluates alternatives and recommends a plan for implementation. If a project is approved for implementation the Corps prepares plans and specifications regarding the maintenance and operations responsibilities before construction may begin.

Applicant Eligibility

The Corps of Engineers will partner with non-federal government agencies, such as cities, counties, special authorities, or units of state government.

Funding

There is an unspecified amount of funding available to support projects with up to \$10 million in total project costs.

Matching and Cost Sharing

The feasibility study is 100% federally funded up to \$100,000. Costs over \$100,000 are shared equally with the nonfederal sponsor. Up to one-half of the nonfederal share can be in the form of in-kind services. Costs for preparation of plans and specifications are shared at 65 percent federal/35 percent nonfederal (construction cost-share varies between 50% and 65% federal, based on the type [structural or nonstructural] solution). The nonfederal share of construction consists of provision of any necessary lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and disposal areas (LERRD), plus a cash contribution of 5% of the total project costs. In the event that the value of LERRD, plus 5% cash, does not equal at least 35% of the total project cost, the nonfederal sponsor must contribute additional cash to pay their share. If LERRD plus 5% exceeds 35%, the sponsor is responsible for up to a maximum of 50% of the total project costs.

Contact Information

Requests for assistance should be in the form of a letter describing the location and nature of the problem and requesting assistance under the program. The request should be submitted by a state or local government agency to the Chief of the Planning Division of your regional U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office. A list of Corps regional offices can be found [here](#). A sample request letter for the New England division of the Corps can be found [here](#).

More information on this program can be found [here](#).

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2025 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

Grant Overview

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Eligible applicants are public bodies, community-based non-profit corporations, and federally recognized tribes.

Program History

	Total Funding	Awards
2021	\$450 million	274
2020	\$871 million	256

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Varies

Match: Not required

Application Due: Rolling

- Funds may be combined with commercial financing to finance one project if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>



Awardee Profile

Irving Tanning Community Center Inc.
Hartland, ME

AMOUNT: \$238,000

YEAR: 2024

Funding will be used to make critical infrastructure repairs to the community center, including replacing the structure’s 25-year-old roof and improving the heating system.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2025 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Rural areas must have no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census data, which can be found online at www.census.gov.

For the purposes of this program, an essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial, or business undertakings. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes, or assisted living facilities
- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars, or street improvements
- Community support services such as childcare centers, community centers, fairgrounds, or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles, or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries, or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, or greenhouses

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Serve communities with populations of 5,500 or fewer
- Serve low-income communities having a median household income below 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income

Funds may be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities; purchase equipment; and pay for related project expenses. Funds may also be used to pay reasonable and necessary fees, when part of a facility, such as:

- Legal
- Architectural and/or engineering
- Fiscal advisory
- Environmental impact analyses
- Archaeological surveys
- Mitigation measures
- Planning
- Establishing or acquiring right

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are public bodies, community-based nonprofit corporations, and federally recognized tribes.

Facilities supported through this program must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Rural areas include cities, villages, townships, and towns, including federally recognized tribal lands, with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census data, which can be found online at www.census.gov.

Additionally, in order to be eligible, applicants must have the legal authority to borrow money, obtain security, and repay loans; and to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities; and be unable to finance projects from their own resources and/or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support grants and low-interest direct loans through this program. Awards may be provided as combinations of grants and loans. Grant assistance is provided on a graduated scale, with smaller communities with the lowest median household income being eligible for projects with a higher proportion of grant funds. Grant assistance is limited to the following percentages of eligible project costs:

- Maximum of 75 percent if:
 - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 5,000 or fewer; and
 - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 60 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income
- Maximum of 55 percent if:
 - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer; and
 - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 70 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income
- Maximum of 35 percent if:
 - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer; and
 - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income
- Maximum of 15 percent if:
 - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer; and
 - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 90 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.

Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicant's authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less. There are no pre-payment penalties. Interest rates will be set by the funding agency and are determined by the median household income of the service area and population of the community. Applicants are encouraged to contact the funding agency for details and current rates. Once the loan is approved, the interest rate is fixed for the entire term of the loan.

Matching and Cost-Share

There are no stated matching requirements for this program.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local office listed online at www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/offices/state-offices. To initiate the application process, applicants must contact the appropriate local office.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2025 Electric Infrastructure Loan and Loan Guarantee Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve electric infrastructure in rural communities nationwide to increase economic opportunities and quality of life. This program provides loans and loan guarantees for the construction of electric distribution, transmission, and generation facilities, including system improvements to improve electric service in rural areas, as well as demand side management, energy conservation programs, and on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems. Eligible applicants are retail or power supply providers including state and local government entities, federally recognized tribes, nonprofits, and for-profit businesses.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	\$6.02 billion	65
2022	\$2.7 billion	64

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Varies

Match: Not required

Proposal due: Rolling

- To initiate the application process, applicants must contact the appropriate general field representative

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/electric-infrastructure-loan-loan-guarantee-program>



Awardee Profile

Shenandoah Valley
Electric Cooperative
Mount Crawford, VA

LOAN AMOUNT: \$66 million

YEAR: 2024

This Rural Development investment will be used to connect 3,370 consumers and build 122 miles of line. Shenandoah Valley Electric provides service to nearly 99,500 accounts over 8,009 miles of line in ten counties and three independent cities in western Virginia.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2025 Electric Infrastructure Loan and Loan Guarantee Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to maintain and improve electric infrastructure in rural communities nationwide in order to increase economic opportunities and quality of life. This program provides investment capital in the form of insured loans and loan guarantees for the construction of electric distribution, transmission, and generation facilities, including system improvements and replacement required to furnish and improve electric service in rural areas, as well as demand-side management, energy conservation programs, and on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems.

Funds may be used to finance:

- Maintenance
- Upgrades
- Expansion
- Replacement of distribution, subtransmission, and headquarters facilities
- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy systems

The program may also provide hardship loans for qualified applicants in rural areas that are either economically distressed or recovering from an unavoidable event, such as a natural disaster.

All facilities receiving financing through this program must be used for public purposes.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are retail or power suppliers including state and local government entities, federally recognized tribes, nonprofits, and for-profit businesses. Eligible nonprofits include cooperatives and limited dividend or mutual associations.

Projects must serve qualified rural areas. Applicants should contact the appropriate [general field representative \(GFR\)](#) for their region to determine whether the proposed service area of the project qualifies as rural.

Applicants must have the legal authority to provide, construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities or services. Partnerships with federal, state, local, private, and nonprofit entities are encouraged.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support insured loans and loan guarantees through this program.

The interest rate for Treasury-rate loans and loan guarantees will be fixed at the time of each advance, based on rates established daily by the U.S. Treasury plus 1/8 of 1 percent. The interest rate of hardship loans will be fixed at 5 percent for up to 35 years. Additional information regarding interest rates for this program can be found online at [rd.usda.gov/interest-rates](https://www.rd.usda.gov/interest-rates).

In general, loan repayments may not exceed the useful life of the facility being financed, with a maximum repayment schedule of 35 years. Power supply borrowers will be limited by the terms of their wholesale power contracts.

Match and Cost Sharing

There are no stated matching requirements for this program.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the program staff, or to the appropriate general field representative (GFR) listed online at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/electric-gfr>.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/electric-infrastructure-loan-loan-guarantee-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

FY 2025 Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide financial and technical assistance to help local communities relieve imminent threats to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences that impair a watershed. Eligible sponsors are entities with a legal interest in, or responsibility for, the areas threatened by a watershed emergency, including states, state agencies, or legal subdivisions of a state government; local units of government including cities, counties, towns, and conservation districts; and Native American tribes or tribal organizations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	\$925 million	28

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Match: Varies

Proposal due: Rolling

- A disaster declaration by federal or state government officials is not required for program assistance to begin.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/ewp-emergency-watershed-protection>



Awardee Profile

San Bernardino County
Department of Public
Works, CA

AMOUNT: Unspecified

YEAR: 2023

Intense rainfall occurred at 1-2 inches per hour over the area scarred by the El Dorado Fire in 2020. The rainfall resulted in high energy flows causing significant damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure. NRCS and the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works proposed measures that will contain anticipated flows within the channels to protect life and property using debris and flow barriers.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

FY 2025 Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide financial and technical assistance to help local communities relieve imminent threats to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences that impair a watershed. Funding will support economically and environmentally defensible projects that will provide protection from flooding or soil erosion, reduce threats to life and property, and restore the hydraulic capacity to the natural environment.

Eligible activities may include:

- Removing debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges
- Reshaping and protecting eroded streambanks
- Correcting damaged or destroyed drainage facilities
- Establishing vegetative cover on critically eroding lands
- Repairing levees and structures
- Repairing certain conservation practices
- Purchasing EWP buyouts

EWP Recovery Buyouts are used where structural projects to reduce threats from flooding and erosion are not cost-effective and/or beneficial. Once NRCS determines that buying a flood prone property (for example) would provide the pivotal solution and sustainable course of action for a community, EWP has the authority to provide local sponsors with financial assistance to purchase and preserve the land for the purpose of restoring the natural environment.

NRCS may provide project sponsors up to 75 percent (and up to 90 percent for [limited resource areas](#)) of:

- the fair market value based on an appraisal for the property,
- eligible acquisition and relocation costs, and
- site restoration costs.

A disaster declaration by federal or state government officials is not required for program assistance to begin. The NRCS state conservationist may declare a local watershed emergency and initiate program assistance in cooperation with an eligible sponsor.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible sponsors are entities with a legal interest in, or responsibility for, the areas threatened by a watershed emergency, including states, state agencies, or legal subdivisions of a state government; local units of government including cities, counties, towns, and conservation districts; and Native American tribes or tribal organizations.

Sponsors may be located in the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, or the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Sponsors must have a legal interest in or responsibility for the areas threatened by a watershed emergency, and must be able to:

- Obtain all necessary property rights, water rights, and permits
- Provide their share of the construction costs
- Cover any unreimbursed expenses
- Operate and maintain any completed recovery measures

In general, private landowners seeking assistance through this program must work through an eligible sponsor.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. Once financial assistance is approved and allocated for a project, the funding agency also provides technical assistance to complete the planning, design, and construction oversight of the recovery measures.

Funds will be provided on a reimbursement basis.

The design and construction of recovery measures must be completed within 220 days, or 10 days for exigent situations where the threat is immediate.

Matching and Cost Sharing

In general, sponsors must provide at least 25 percent of the construction costs via nonfederal cash and/or in-kind contributions. For sponsors located in communities designated as limited resource areas, the matching requirement will be reduced to 10 percent of the construction costs.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local NRCS service center listed online at offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator, the appropriate state program manager listed online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives, or the appropriate NRCS state office listed online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/ewp-emergency-watershed-protection>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

FY 2024 Watershed Rehabilitation Program

Grant Overview

This program provides assistance to local project sponsors to:

- 1) Rehabilitate aging dams that are reaching the end of their design life and/or no longer meet federal or state standards;
- or 2) Construct or augment existing water supplies based on current and future water supply demands. Eligible applicants are locally-led government agencies, organizations, and conservation districts.

Program History

Since 1948, the Natural Resources Conservation Service has assisted local sponsors in constructing over 11,845 dams.

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Unspecified

Match: 35 percent

Proposal due: Rolling

- The funding agency prioritizes dams for rehabilitation based on the risks to life and property if a dam failure would occur.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/watershed-rehabilitation>



Awardee Profile

Pembina County Water Resource District, ND

AMOUNT: \$3,117,900

YEAR: 2021

The purpose of the project was to bring Tongue River Dam #M-4, originally constructed in 1962, into compliance with current State and Federal dam design and safety criteria.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

FY 2024 Watershed Rehabilitation Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help project sponsors rehabilitate aging dams that are reaching the end of their design life and/or no longer meet federal or state standards. NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to local project sponsors to rehabilitate aging dams that protect lives and property, and infrastructure. The program allows sponsors to construct or augment existing water supplies based on current and future water supply demands. For dams funded for rehabilitation, a watershed plan is developed for each dam. The watershed plan addresses resource concerns including environmental impacts, costs, and benefits, planned conservation practices, and the responsibilities of involved parties. NRCS works with the local sponsors when developing a watershed plan.

Project sponsors are responsible for and agree to carry out specific parts of the project, including:

- Providing their share of project costs
- Assisting NRCS in developing a watershed plan
- Obtaining land rights
- Obtaining required permits
- Operation and maintenance throughout the evaluated life of the project
- Monitoring easement encroachment
- Developing and updating emergency action plans for high-hazard potential dams
- Conducting regular inspections of installed works of improvements

The funding agency prioritizes dams for rehabilitation based on the risks to life and property if a dam failure would occur. Applicants should contact their State Watershed Rehabilitation Program Manager to determine if their project is a good fit for the program.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are locally-led government agencies, organizations, and conservation districts. Watershed projects must include one or more eligible sponsors. An eligible sponsor must be able to perform at least one of the following functions:

- Power of Eminent Domain
- Permitting and Licensing
- Authority to Levy Taxes
- Provide Land Treatment above Reservoirs
- Locally-Led Participation
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Watershed Management
- Municipal and Industrial (M&I) Water
- Operation and Maintenance (O&M)

- Storm and Sanitary Sewers

Funding

In FY 2024, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. In addition to monetary awards, award recipients will receive technical assistance to assist them with the planning, design, and construction of projects. Funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis. Funds may not be used for the operation and maintenance of dams, or new purposes added to the rehabilitation project that do not involve water supply storage.

Matching and Cost Sharing

In general, applicants must provide 35 percent of a project's costs as a cost-share. The cost share requirement for engineering or technical assistance is 0 percent.

Contact Information

For more information contact a local service center provider [here](#).

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/watershed-rehabilitation>



Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

FY 2025 Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Program: Expert Match

Grant Overview

This program provides free, short-term technical assistance to address near-term clean energy challenges and questions. Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will match relevant experts with community stakeholders who have decision-making power or influence in their community but need access to additional clean energy expertise to inform key upcoming decisions. Eligible applicants are community stakeholders including local governments, tribes, metropolitan planning organizations, regional planning organizations, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, municipal or cooperative utilities, and institutions of higher education.

Program History

A program history is unavailable.

Key Information

Total Funding: Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will match communities with relevant experts who will provide free, short-term technical assistance to address near-term clean energy challenges and questions.

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: March 11, 2025

Due Date: Rolling

https://www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/e2c-expert-match.html?utm_medium=print&utm_source=state-local-tribal&utm_campaign=expert-match



Tips

- Applicants may apply for assistance through this program multiple times; however, priority may be given to communities that have not received prior support through this program.

Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

FY 2025 Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Program: Expert Match

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide free, short-term technical assistance to address near-term clean energy challenges and questions. Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will match relevant experts with community stakeholders who have decision-making power or influence in their community but need access to additional clean energy expertise to inform key upcoming decisions. This program is most suitable for communities that could benefit from assistance to inform time-sensitive decisions and identify and understand the range of options for achieving clean energy goals.

Projects often center on answering specific questions related to a community's energy goals and challenges. Examples of project topics include:

- General clean energy
- Resilience and access
- Financing
- Buildings
- Transportation
- Other city infrastructure and crosscutting questions

After reviewing a community's application, the program coordination team will identify a topic area expert at NREL, other national laboratories, or partner organizations whose work aligns with the community's request.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are community stakeholders who have decision-making power or influence in their community but need access to additional clean energy expertise to inform key upcoming decisions including local governments, tribes, metropolitan planning organizations, regional planning organizations, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, municipal or cooperative utilities, and institutions of higher education.

Applicants may apply for assistance through this program multiple times; however, priority may be given to communities that have not received prior support through this program.

Funding

Rather than providing monetary awards, this program will match communities with relevant experts who will provide free, short-term technical assistance to address near-term clean energy challenges and questions.

Approximately 15 communities will be supported per month, and up to 200 communities will be supported per year.

The technical assistance time frame is 40 to 60 hours over three to four months. Because the start date will depend upon expert availability, technical assistance may not necessarily begin immediately upon acceptance to the program.

Matching and Cost Share

Matching funds are not required for this program. The primary commitment of community representatives will be their time, feedback, and expertise.

Contact Information

Program Staff

C2Cexpertmatch@nrel.gov

https://www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/e2c-expert-match.html?utm_medium=print&utm_source=state-local-tribal&utm_campaign=expert-match

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Energy
Agency: Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations

FY 2024 Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas: Notice of Intent

Grant Overview

This program assists rural and remote communities in building clean energy projects that benefit their communities. Benefits could include cleaner, more resilient, more reliable, and/or cheaper local energy sources for rural and remote communities. These projects could also increase local energy independence, tax revenue, economic development and diversification, and local jobs. Eligible applicants include tribal nations; state, territorial, and local governments; nonprofits; labor unions; for-profit entities; rural electric cooperatives; farming associations and cooperatives; and institutions of higher education.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	\$444 million	36

Key Information

Total Funding: \$400 million

Award Range: Varies

Match: Varies

Solicitation Date: September 2024 (This announcement is only a notice of intent and the full solicitation will be released at a later date)

<https://oced-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#Foald30e04ed5-7532-4e64-8336-8557132d338c>



Awardee Profile

National Association of
Community Health Centers, NC

AMOUNT: \$57,010,000

YEAR: 2023

This project plans to build energy resilience in Community Health Centers to improve access to reliable health care in low-income, rural communities across eight states in the southeast.

Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations

FY 2024 Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas: Notice of Intent

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support rural and remote communities in building clean energy projects that benefit their communities. Benefits could include cleaner, more resilient, more reliable, and/or cheaper local energy sources for rural and remote communities. These projects could also increase local energy independence, tax revenue, economic development and diversification, and local jobs. This program will enable projects and people to demonstrate inspiring and practical paths so an even broader range and number of rural and remote communities can benefit from clean energy.

The overall goals of this program are to:

- Deliver measurable and sustained benefits to people who live in rural or remote areas by funding replicable clean energy projects that lower energy costs, improve energy access and resilience, increase economic opportunity, and/or reduce environmental harm
- Demonstrate rural or remote energy system approaches using climate-resilient technologies, business structures that promote economic resilience, accessible and appropriate financing mechanisms, and/or best practices in community leadership and engagement, and workforce development
- Build clean energy knowledge, capacity, and self-reliance in rural and remote parts of America

Eligible projects must support at least one of the following activities:

- Improving overall cost-effectiveness of energy generation, transmission, or distribution systems
- Siting or upgrading transmission and distribution lines
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation in rural or remote areas
- Providing or modernizing electric generation facilities
- Developing microgrids
- Increasing energy efficiency

Eligible projects must include commercially available technologies. For the purposes of this funding opportunity, commercially available technology is defined as a product that has been offered for sale, lease, or license to the public. Applicants can establish that the technology is commercially available by showing the product can be warrantied, can be purchased from a commercial vendor for the intended purpose, or some other justification the applicant chooses. The technology must be considered Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 8–9 (the highest two levels) as defined by the Department of Energy before construction begins.

Funding will be available through the following topic areas:

Topic Area 1 - Open Category: The objective of this topic area is to offer a path to funding rural or remote clean energy infrastructure for many different project types, demonstrating approaches to addressing one or more relevant adoption barriers. This topic area prioritizes the following project types:

- Solar, battery energy storage systems, wind, water power (marine energy and hydropower), geothermal (heating and cooling or power generation), biomass/biofuels, microgrids, distribution, converting fossil fuel-powered equipment to electric, and repowering existing renewable energy systems.

Topic Area 2 - Dual Use and Co-Location: The objective of this topic area is to support clean energy demonstration projects in rural and remote communities that either allow for using land or water for both energy supply and other activities; or are co-located with other activities and result in other benefits beyond energy supply and reduced pollution. Demonstrations could help to:

- Address potential conflicts between clean energy and other land and water uses in rural or remote areas
- Maximize tangible, measurable co-benefits of clean energy projects beyond supplying energy and reducing pollution—including but not limited to economic, workforce, and environmental benefits
- Increase equitable access to clean energy through new business models and financing structures.

Applicants may propose projects that provide co-benefits to communities beyond supplying energy and reducing pollution, e.g., reducing land use conflicts, conserving water, diversifying incomes, and/or enhancing partnerships.

Example projects include: agrivoltaics, distributed wind for farmers and farm groups, conduit hydro in irrigation systems, community geothermal heating and cooling systems.

Topic Area 3 - Smaller-Scale Community Centered: The objective of this topic area is to fund smaller-scale clean energy projects that are initiated, driven, and/or broadly supported by residents of the host community(ies). Projects should increase long-term local capacity for future clean energy projects in the applying community and/or in nearby or peer communities. This could include increasing the availability of technical expertise to plan and develop projects, or improved community perception. The funding agency encourages applicants to collaborate with relevant partners, particularly Tribal governments and community-based organizations that are familiar with the local community, and/or entities (e.g., nonprofits or extension schools) that have experience with developing renewable energy projects in similar areas. This topic area prioritizes the following project types:

- Solar, battery energy storage systems, wind, water power (marine energy and hydropower), geothermal (heating and cooling or power generation), biomass/biofuels, microgrids, distribution, converting fossil fuel-powered equipment to electric, and repowering existing renewable energy systems.

Topic Area 4 - Isolated Microgrids and Unelectrified Buildings: The objective of this topic area is to build clean energy projects for either isolated microgrids (often located in ultra-remote areas and served primarily by diesel generators); or unelectrified homes or community buildings not currently served by an electrical grid.

Across all topic areas priority will be given to communities and populations with at least one of the following characteristics:

- Disadvantaged communities as defined by the Justice40 Initiative and identified in the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
- Energy communities as defined by the Inflation Reduction Act or communities that are likely to become energy communities in the near future
- Low-income communities and populations
- Underserved and/or underrepresented communities and populations
- High energy burden communities and populations
- Frontline communities and populations, i.e., those hit first and worst by climate change
- Communities with a low Rural Capacity Index

Priority will also be given to project teams that include members who are:

- Highly familiar with local community priorities and dynamics
- Members of (or who represent) priority communities or populations (as referenced above)
- Labor unions or other local workforce development organizations
- Credible with and trusted by community members
- Residents of proposed host community(ies)
- Experienced in project development with proposed technologies in similar geographic and cultural contexts
- Capable of efficiently and effectively administering government funding

Projects not of interest include:

- Large transmission projects (i.e., projects >69kV, or proposals of lines >20 miles).
- Single-campus projects that serve only the regular operation of that facility (e.g., solar on individual hospitals or schools). For topic areas 3 and 4, applicants may propose single-campus projects that include backup power from emission-free sources for critical community-serving buildings (e.g., solar plus battery storage for a cultural center that serves as a command center and warming shelter during power outages).
- Electric vehicles (EVs) or projects solely focused on EV charging. EV charging infrastructure may be a component of a broader, otherwise eligible project.
- Projects including only weatherization

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include tribal nations; state, territorial, and local governments; nonprofits; labor unions; for-profit entities; rural electric cooperatives; farming associations and cooperatives; and institutions of higher education.

Funding

In FY 2024, approximately \$400 million in funding is available to support awards through this program.

Funding for each topic area is as follows:

- Topic Area 1: Open Category – approximately \$150 million in funding is available to support awards ranging from \$10 million to \$50 million through this topic area.

- Topic Area 2: Dual Use and Co-Location - approximately \$175 million in funding is available to support awards ranging from \$10 million to \$50 million through this topic area.
- Topic Area 3: Smaller-Scale Community Centered - approximately \$50 million in funding is available to support awards ranging from \$2 million to \$10 million through this topic area.
- Topic Area 4: Isolated Microgrids and Unelectrified Buildings - approximately \$25 million in funding is available to support awards ranging from \$2 million to \$10 million through this topic area.

The funding agency anticipates announcing awards in mid-late 2025.

Matching and Cost Share

Cost share requirements for each topic area are as follows:

- Topic Area 1: Open Category – applicants are required to provide a 50 percent cost share requirement; however, tribal and local governments may apply for a waiver reducing the cost share requirement to 20 percent of a project’s total cost.
- Topic Area 2: Dual Use and Co-Location - applicants are required to provide a 50 percent cost share requirement; however, tribal and local governments may apply for a waiver reducing the cost share requirement to 20 percent of a project’s total cost.
- Topic Area 3: Smaller-Scale Community Centered – applicants are required to provide a 20 percent cost share requirement; however, tribal and local governments may apply for a waiver reducing the cost share requirement to 5 percent of a project’s total cost.
- Topic Area 4: Isolated Microgrids and Unelectrified Buildings - applicants are required to provide a 20 percent cost share requirement; however, tribal and local governments may apply for a waiver reducing the cost share requirement to 5 percent of a project’s total cost.

Contact Information

Program Staff

OCED-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov

<https://oced-exchange.energy.gov/Default.aspx#Foald30e04ed5-7532-4e64-8336-8557132d338c>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Energy
Agency: Loan Programs Office

FY 2025 Federal Loan Guarantees for Innovative Clean Energy

Grant Overview

The Federal Loan Guarantees for Innovative Clean Energy program provides loan guarantees for projects that avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and employ new or significantly improved technologies as compared to commercial technologies in service in the United States. There are no stated eligibility requirements for this program.

Program History

This is a new program replacing the Federal Loan Guarantees for Renewable Energy Projects and Efficient Energy Projects program.

Key Information

Total Funding: \$3 billion

Award Range: Unspecified

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: April 18, 2022

Proposal due: Rolling

<https://www.energy.gov/lpo/innovative-clean-energy-loan-guarantees>



Tips

- Prior to submitting an application, applicants must submit a mandatory request for a pre-application consultation with the funding agency. Prospective applicants can begin the consultation process by sending an email to LPO@hq.doe.gov.
- The funding agency may evaluate the extent to which projects achieve DOE's policy objectives including job quality; responsible contractor standards; workforce diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility goals for individuals who belong to underserved communities, live in rural areas, and are otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: Loan Programs Office

FY 2025 Federal Loans Guarantees for Innovative Clean Energy

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide loan guarantees for projects that avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and employ new or significantly improved technologies as compared to commercial technologies in service in the United States.

New or significantly improved technology means a technology, or a defined suite of technologies, concerned with the production, consumption, or transportation of energy and that is not a commercial technology, and that has either only recently been developed, discovered, or learned, or involves or constitutes one or more meaningful and important improvements in productivity or value, in comparison to commercial technologies in use in the United States.

Commercial technology means a technology in general use in the commercial marketplace in the United States. A technology is in general use if it is being used in three or more facilities that are in commercial operation in the United States for the same general purpose as the proposed project and has been used in each such facility for a period of at least five years. The five-year period for each facility starts on the in-service date of the facility employing that particular technology or, in the case of a retrofit of a facility to employ a particular technology, the date the facility resumes commercial operation following completion and testing of the retrofit.

All projects must fall under one of the following categories:

- Renewable energy systems
- Hydrogen fuel cell technology for residential, industrial, or transportation applications
- Carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration practices and technologies, including agricultural and forestry practices that store and sequester carbon and synthetic technologies to remove carbon from the air and oceans
- Efficient electrical generation, transmission, and distribution technologies
- Efficient end-use energy technologies
- Production facilities for the manufacture of fuel-efficient vehicles or parts of those vehicles, including electric drive vehicles and advanced diesel vehicles
- Pollution control equipment
- Energy storage technologies for residential, industrial, transportation, and power generation applications
- Technologies or processes for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from industrial applications, including iron, steel, cement, and ammonia production; hydrogen production; and the generation of high-temperature heat

This program may also support the following types of projects:

- Distributed energy projects: projects that are comprised of the installations of systems, facilities, equipment, or technologies at multiple sites, and that deploy an eligible technology or a defined suite of technologies concerned with the production, consumption, or transportation of energy pursuant to an integrated and comprehensive business plan
- Supply chain projects: projects that involve the manufacturing of components with end-uses that fall within one or more of aforementioned project categories and that can result in end-use life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions savings or air pollutants reduction

Projects must meet the following criteria:

- Located in the United States at one location
- Employ new or significantly improved technologies as compared to commercial technologies in service in the United States at the time the guarantee is issued, including projects that employ elements of commercial technologies in combination with new or significantly improved technologies
- Avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases

Applicant Eligibility

There are no stated eligibility requirements for this program.

To be considered under this program applicants are required to undergo a two-part application process. In Part I of the process, the applicant is invited to provide the basis for the Project's eligibility for a loan guarantee and explain the project's readiness to proceed further into the application process. If the funding agency deems a project qualified under a Part I application, then the applicant will be invited to Part II of the process. In Part II of the application, the applicant will provide further information that the funding agency will use to determine a reasonable prospect of repayment of a potential loan to be guaranteed and to evaluate programmatic, technical, financial and other factors.

Applicants may apply more than once under this program; however, applicants may submit no more than one application for a project using a particular technology. Applicants may submit a single application for multiple projects using different technologies; however, the funding agency may require the applicant to separate such projects into multiple applications at any time during the application process. If regional variation significantly affects the deployment of a technology, the funding agency may make loan guarantees for up to six projects that employ the same or similar technology as another project, provided that no more than two projects that use the same or a similar technology are located in the same region of the United States.

Funding

In FY 2022-2025, up to \$3 billion is available to support loan guarantees through this program. Funding is available through the following funding sources:

- 2007 Appropriations Act: a total of \$1.5 billion is available to support loan guarantees through this funding source
- 2009 Appropriations Act: a total of \$317 million is available to support loan guarantees through this funding source
- 2011 Appropriations Act: a total of \$1.183 billion is available to support loan guarantees through this funding source

In general, funds may not be given to projects that are already using funds appropriated under the 2009 Appropriations Act and the 2011 Appropriations Act and will benefit directly or indirectly from certain other forms of federal support.

There are no stated matching requirements for this program; however, applicants should detail any additional federal support or other nonfederal governmental support for the project in part I applications. The funding agency will charge fees and expenses to the award recipient, including origination fees, third-party expenses, facility fees, maintenance fees, and credit subsidy costs.

While there are no stated minimum or maximum requirements, the program has indicated they generally do not make awards for less than \$100 million.

Applicants must indicate their intent to use the Federal Financing Bank (FFB) or an alternative lender for the proposed loan guarantee. The FFB is the only lender in which the funding agency is permitted to guarantee 100 percent of the principal and interest on a loan. Lenders other than the FFB must meet regulatory and programmatic requirements for eligibility to the satisfaction of the funding agency.

The interest rate for loans that are issued by the FFB and backed by a 100 percent loan guarantee issued by the funding agency will be calculated at the applicable U.S. Treasury rate for the tenor of the loan plus a FFB liquidity spread and a risk-based charge that may be collected up front or as a credit-based interest rate spread over the life of the loan.

Contact Information

Program Staff

LPO.REEEsolicitation.Questions@hq.doe.gov

<https://www.energy.gov/lpo/innovative-clean-energy-loan-guarantees>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Energy
Agency: Grid Deployment Office

FY 2024 Section 242: Hydroelectric Production Incentive Program

Grant Overview

This program will provide incentive payments to qualified hydroelectric facilities for electricity generated and sold. Eligible applicants include any owner or authorized operator of a qualified hydroelectric generation facility.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	\$36.7 million	66

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Varies

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: March 14, 2024

Due Date: April 23, 2024

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-242-hydroelectric-production-incentive-program>



Awardee Profile

City of Lawrence, KS

AMOUNT: \$119,512

YEAR: 2023

BMPC Expanded Kansas River Hydropower Project received funding as a result of increased energy production.

Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: Grid Deployment Office

FY 2024 Section 242: Hydroelectric Production Incentive Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide incentive payments to qualified hydroelectric facilities for electricity generated and sold. To qualify for an incentive payment, an eligible applicant must demonstrate that its hydroelectric facility meets all of the following criteria of a qualified hydroelectric facility:

- Is located in a State or in U.S. jurisdictional waters
- Has a water-powered turbine or other generating device (including conventional or new and innovative technologies capable of continuous operation)
- Is owned by a non-Federal entity and operated by a non-Federal entity. The owner or authorized operator must be applying on behalf of:
 - A Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)-jurisdictional hydroelectric facility, as the holder of a license or exemption issued by FERC for the operation of such hydroelectric facility; or
 - A non-FERC-jurisdictional hydroelectric facility, as the holder of the exclusive rights to the beneficial use of the hydroelectric facility, including legal title
- Began producing hydroelectric energy for sale on or after October 1, 2005, either through added generation capability, or at a facility where operations began prior to October 1, 2005, so long as the facility had been offline because of disrepair or dismantling for at least five consecutive years prior and underwent significant changes
- Has either:
 - Added generation capability to an existing dam or conduit (as defined above), and began operation between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2027 or;
 - A generating capacity of not more than 20 megawatts, must be a non-Federal entity which received a construction authorization from FERC, if applicable, and is constructed in an area in which there is inadequate electric service. To be considered an area in which there is inadequate electric service, the facility must demonstrate one of the following:
 - A lack of access to the electric grid, as demonstrated by a lack of connection to a regional or national interconnected transmission system, such as the Eastern Interconnect, the Western Interconnect, or the Texas Interconnect;
 - A significantly high frequency of electric outages, as demonstrated by a reported annual common reliability metric, including but not limited to SAIFI without MED, that is in the highest 10% of total annual reported outages;
 - A significantly high cost of electricity, as demonstrated by a reported annual average price of retail residential electricity that is in the highest 10% of total annual reported average retail residential electricity price.

To be eligible for funding a project must have produced electrical power produced from a hydroelectric generation facility placed in operation on or after October 1, 2005, and on or before September 30, 2027.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include any owner or authorized operator of a hydroelectric generation facility may apply for incentive payments for net electric energy generated by and sold from its operation during the eligibility window.

Funding

In FY 2024, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. Specific award amounts will be calculated as follows:

- The amount of eligible kWhs produced by the hydroelectric generation facility is multiplied by the statutory incentive rate of \$0.018/kWh, which is adjusted as required by 42 U.S.C. § 15881(e)(2).
- A payment to a qualified hydroelectric facility shall not exceed the statutory limit established in 42 U.S.C. 15881(e)(1) per applicant per calendar year

Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, a hydroelectric generation facility may receive payments for a period of 10 consecutive fiscal years. Such period shall begin with the first fiscal year in which the facility began producing hydroelectric energy for sale. For example, a hydroelectric generation facility that began producing hydroelectric energy for sale on September 30, 2027, and continued to produce and sell hydroelectric energy through September 30, 2036, would be eligible to apply for incentive payments, subject to future appropriations, for fiscal year 2027 through the end of fiscal year 2036 but not beyond that time period.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Not required

Contact Information

Program Staff

hydroelectricincentives@hq.doe.gov

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-242-hydroelectric-production-incentive-program>

**FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE**

Department: U.S. Department of Energy
Agency: Grid Deployment Office

FY 2023 Section 243: Hydroelectric Efficiency Improvement Incentives Program

Grant Overview

This program will make incentive payments to the owners or authorized operators of a hydroelectric facility at an existing dam for capital improvements directly related to improving facility efficiency by at least three percent.

Program History

This is a new program created through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Key Information

Total Funding: \$75 million

Award Range: Varies

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: March 22, 2023

Due Date: June 20, 2023

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-243-hydroelectric-efficiency-improvement-incentives-program>



Tips

- An applicant must demonstrate an increase of at least three percent in the efficiency improvement percentage for the hydroelectric facility where the capital improvement(s) were made or are to be made.

Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: Grid Deployment Office

FY 2023 Section 243: Hydroelectric Efficiency Improvement Incentives Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to make incentive payments to the owner or authorized operator of a hydroelectric facility at an existing dam, for capital improvements directly related to improving facility efficiency by at least three percent.

In order to be eligible for a hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentive payment under this program, the following qualifications must be met:

- The hydroelectric facility at the dam must have been placed in service before November 15, 2021
- The hydroelectric facility must be operable at the time an application is submitted
- The capital improvement(s) are made:
 - On the hydroelectric facility side of the point of interconnection or common coupling with the electric utility, or
 - In a facility that remotely controls hydroelectric facility operations
- The capital improvement(s) must increase the efficiency of the hydroelectric facility by at least 3 percent.

To be eligible to apply for a hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentive payment, a capital improvement project at an eligible hydroelectric facility must have applied for or already received all Federal, State, and/or Tribal authorizations and have initiated, requested, or completed any required federal environmental review processes under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

The funding agency seeks eligible projects that not only contribute to the country's energy technology and climate goals, but also promote the following goals:

- Create good paying, high quality, local jobs
- Advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility for all, including people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality
- Support meaningful community and labor engagement
- Contribute to the goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits from certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include any owner or authorized operator of a hydroelectric facility at an eligible existing dam that meets the eligibility criteria mentioned above.

Funding

In FY 2023, approximately \$75 million is available to support awards of up to \$5 million per facility through this program. Under this program incentive payments shall not exceed 30 percent of the costs of the applicable capital improvement.

The funding agency may set aside up to 25 percent of the funding under this program for small projects, defined as hydropower projects that have a nameplate capacity of less than 10 MW and owned by small businesses, municipal entities, nonprofit organizations, electric cooperatives, and/or Indian Tribes.

Contact Information

Program Staff

hydroelectricincentives@hq.doe.gov

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-243-hydroelectric-efficiency-improvement-incentives-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Energy
Agency: Grid Deployment Office

FY 2023 Section 247: Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentives

Grant Overview

This program will make incentive payments to the owner or authorized operator of a qualified hydroelectric facility for capital improvements directly related to improving grid resilience (including the addition of energy storage such as reservoir capacity, pumped storage hydropower, and batteries) and dam safety and related to environmental improvements. Eligible applicants include any owner or authorized operator of an existing facility that is licensed or has received an exemption from licensing from FERC pursuant to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.) or is a hydroelectric project constructed, operated, or maintained pursuant to a permit or valid existing right-of-way granted prior to June 10, 1920, or a license granted pursuant to the Federal Power Act prior to November 15, 2021.

Program History

This is a new program created through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Key Information

Total Funding: \$553.6 million

Award Range: Up to \$5 million

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: May 8, 2023

Due Date: June 22, 2023 (Letter of Intent) October 6, 2023 (Full Application)

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-247-maintaining-and-enhancing-hydroelectricity-incentives>



Tips

- A public webinar will be held on May 24th to provide an overview of the application guidance document. Click [here](#) to register.
- A Letter of Intent must be submitted to be eligible to apply under the full application
- Only materials procured or other costs incurred after November 15, 2021, are eligible for incentive payments.

Department: U.S. Department of Energy

Agency: Grid Deployment Office

FY 2023 Section 247: Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentives

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to make incentive payments to the owner or authorized operator of a qualified hydroelectric facility for capital improvements directly related to improving grid resilience (including the addition of energy storage such as reservoir capacity, pumped storage hydropower, and batteries) and dam safety and related to environmental improvements. Under this program all developments within an individual Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)-licensed hydroelectric project will be treated as a single hydroelectric facility and may receive one incentive payment subject to the above limitations per fiscal year.

A qualified hydroelectric facility:

- Is licensed by FERC or is a hydroelectric project constructed, operated, or maintained pursuant to a permit or valid existing right-of-way granted prior to June 10, 1920, or a license granted pursuant to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.), or has a FERC-issued exemption;
- Was placed into service before November 15, 2021; and
- Is in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and Tribal requirements, or would be brought into compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and Tribal requirements as a result of the capital improvements carried out using an incentive payment

Funding will be available through the following categories:

Category 1: Improving grid resiliency: eligible capital improvement projects will directly relate to improving grid resiliency and include:

- Adapting more quickly to changing grid conditions
- Providing ancillary services (including black-start capabilities, voltage support, and spinning reserves).
- Integrating other variable sources of electricity generation
- Managing accumulated reservoir sediments.

Category 2: Improving dam safety: eligible capital improvement projects will improve dam safety to ensure acceptable performance under all loading conditions (including static, hydrologic, and seismic conditions) and include:

- The maintenance or upgrade of spillways or other appurtenant structures
- Dam stability improvements, including erosion repair and enhanced seepage controls
- Upgrades or replacements of floodgates or natural infrastructure restoration or protection to improve flood risk reduction

Category 3: Environmental improvements: eligible capital improvement projects will directly relate to environmental improvements and include:

- Adding or improving safe and effective fish passage, including new or upgraded turbine technology, fish ladders, fishways, and all other associated technology, equipment, or other fish passage technology to a qualified hydroelectric facility
- Improving the quality of the water retained or released by a qualified hydroelectric facility
- Promoting downstream sediment transport processes and habitat maintenance
- Improving recreational access to the project vicinity including roads, trails, boat ingress and egress, flows to improve recreation, and infrastructure that improves river recreation opportunities.

The funding agency seeks eligible projects that not only contribute to the country's energy technology and climate goals but also promote the following goals:

- Create good paying, high-quality, local jobs
- Advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility for all, including people of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality
- Support meaningful community and labor engagement
- Contribute to the goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits from certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include any owner or authorized operator of an existing facility that is licensed or has received an exemption from licensing from FERC pursuant to the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.) or is a hydroelectric project constructed, operated, or maintained pursuant to a permit or valid existing right-of-way granted prior to June 10, 1920, or a license granted pursuant to the Federal Power Act prior to November 15, 2021.

There is no limit to the number of facilities for which applications can be filed by a single owner. Applications for capital improvements across different categories (i.e., grid resiliency, dam safety, and environmental improvements) must be filed in separate applications. However, developments within an individual FERC-licensed hydroelectric project will be treated as a single hydroelectric facility and only one incentive payment may be made to each hydroelectric facility per fiscal year.

Funding

In FY 2023, approximately \$553.6 million is available to support awards up to \$5 million. An estimated 25 percent of this total funding will be reserved for small projects defined as hydropower projects that have a nameplate capacity of less than 10 MW and are owned by small businesses, municipal entities (including electric cooperatives), and nonprofit organizations or Indian Tribes. Incentive payments shall not exceed 30 percent of the costs of the applicable capital improvement.

Matching and Cost Share

There is no matching requirement for this program.

Contact Information

Program Staff

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<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/section-247-maintaining-and-enhancing-hydroelectricity-incentives>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)



Grant Overview

The Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) program provides support to communities for hazard mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation and resilience with respect to the growing hazards associated with climate change. Program priorities for FY 2024 are to incentivize natural hazard risk reduction activities that mitigate risk to public infrastructure and disadvantaged communities, incorporate nature-based solutions, and increase funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes. Eligible applicants are states, territories, and tribal governments. **Local governments may apply as a sub-applicant through their state specific process.**

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	\$882.6 million	93

Key Information

Total Funding: \$750 million

Award Range: Varies

Match: Varies

Solicitation date: January 6, 2025

Proposal due: April 18, 2025

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>

Awardee Profile

City of Buckeye,
AZ

AMOUNT: \$4.57 million

YEAR: 2023

This project will connect the drainage system to existing irrigation canals. It also plans to build a floodwater retention basin on a vacant lot. The project will also reduce and eliminate flooding problems; protect structures and streets from floodwater; enhance desert habitat; improve groundwater; restore riparian areas; and provide multi-use benefits during dry seasons.

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide support to communities for hazard mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation and resilience with respect to the growing hazards associated with climate change and of the need for natural hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation and resilience with respect to those hazards. These include both acute extreme weather events and chronic stressors which have been observed and are expected to increase in intensity and frequency in the future. The guiding principles of the program include supporting communities through capability and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation, including multi-hazard resilience or nature-based solutions; promoting partnerships; enabling large, systems-based projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency. Through these efforts communities are able to better understand disaster risk and vulnerabilities, conduct community-driven resilience, hazard mitigation planning, and design transformational projects and programs.

The program aims to shift the focus of federal investments away from reactive, post-disaster spending and toward research-supported, proactive investments in community resilience. These investments aim to reduce future disaster losses, including loss of life and property as well as future spending from the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF). BRIC focuses on cost-effective mitigation measures including protecting public infrastructure so that critical services can withstand or more rapidly recover from future disasters, as well as other projects and activities to increase resilience throughout the nation. Through the program, the funding agency can engage state, local, tribal, and territorial partners in enhancing climate resilience and adaptation through systems-based, community-wide investments. The funding agency is including new provisions to implement the [Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act](#), a new law which aims to direct public and private resilience investments in communities that are most vulnerable to natural hazards.

The program objectives are to:

- Increase climate literacy among the emergency management community, including awareness of natural hazard risks and knowledge of best practices for hazard mitigation and climate adaptation.
- Increase awareness of stakeholders and partners with capabilities to support hazard mitigation.
- Ensure more innovative risk-informed hazard mitigation projects are developed and completed, including multi-hazard resilience or nature-based solutions.
- Help communities identify and mitigate their risks to natural hazards and climate change.
- Direct increased resources to eliminate disparities in equitable outcomes across disadvantaged communities.

The program priorities are to:

- Incentivize natural hazard risk reduction activities that mitigate risk to public infrastructure and disadvantaged communities

- Incorporate nature-based solutions including those designed to reduce carbon emissions
- Increase funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes

The program encourages mitigation projects that meet multiple program priorities.

Financial assistance awards will be provided for the following activities:

- Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) activities – activities that enhance the knowledge, skills, and expertise of the current workforce to expand or improve the administration of hazard mitigation assistance. This includes activities in the following sub-categories: building codes, partnerships, project scoping, hazard mitigation planning and planning-related activities, and other activities.
- Hazard Mitigation Projects – cost-effective hazard mitigation projects designed to increase resilience and public safety; reduce injuries and loss of life; and reduce damage and destruction to property, critical services, facilities, and infrastructure (including natural systems) from a multitude of natural hazards, including drought, wildfire, earthquakes, extreme heat, and the effects of climate change.
- Management Costs – financial assistance to reimburse the recipient and subrecipient for eligible and reasonable indirect costs, direct administrative costs, and other administrative expenses associated with a specific award or subaward.

Applicants may also request non-financial direct technical assistance via the [BRIC Technical Assistance](#) program which supports the development of climate resilience planning and project design in, and with, underserved and/or disadvantaged communities, and federally recognized tribal governments that are disproportionately affected by natural hazard risk and climate change.

FEMA will prioritize assistance for eligible entities that request technical assistance support for resilience or hazard mitigation activities within or that primarily benefit a [Justice40 community](#), which includes Federally Recognized Tribes or Tribal entities, and/or census tracts identified as disadvantaged by the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#); an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community (defined in 42 U.S.C. § 5133(a) as a small impoverished community); or a Community Disaster Resilience Zone (as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 5136(a)(1)).

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, territories, and tribal governments. Eligible applicants must have had a major disaster declaration under the Stafford Act in the seven years prior to the annual application period and have an approved state or tribal hazard mitigation plan in accordance with Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 201 by the application deadline.

Communities, including local governments, cities, townships, counties, special district governments, and tribal governments, may choose to apply as sub-applicants and request financial assistance from their state, territory, or tribal applicant agency. Many states have fixed subapplication deadlines that precede the application deadline. Contact your [State Hazard Mitigation Officer](#) to learn about its sub-application process.

Funding

In FY 2024, approximately \$750 million in funding will be available to support awards. Of the total amount, funding will be allocated as follows:

- State/territory Allocation: a total of \$112 million is available to support awards of up to \$2 million.
- Tribal Set-aside: a total of \$50 million is available to support awards of up to \$2 million.
- State/territory Building Code Plus-Up: a total of \$112 million is available to support awards of up to \$50 million
- Tribal Building Code Plus-Up: a total of \$25 million is available to support awards of up to \$2 million.
- National Competition: a total of \$451 million is available to support awards of up to \$50 million.

The period of performance is 36 months starting at the date of federal award.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must provide at least 25 percent of the project costs via nonfederal cash, donated or third-party in-kind services, materials, or any combination thereof; however, the match requirement is decreased to 10 percent of the project costs for economically disadvantaged rural community applicants and federally recognized Indian tribal government. Projects performed within, and/or that primarily benefit a designated Community Disaster Resilience Zone also have a decreased cost sharing requirement of 10 percent of the total project costs.

Award recipients may be reimbursed for management costs that include indirect costs, direct administrative costs, and other administrative expenses associated with a specific mitigation measure or project in an amount of up to 15 percent of the award, of which not more than 10 percent of the total award may be used by the recipient and 5 percent by the subrecipient for such costs.

Contact Information

For general questions about the BRIC program can be directed to the appropriate [State Hazard Mitigation Officer](#) or [FEMA Regional Office](#).

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Agency: Office of Federal Emergency Management (FEMA)

FY 2024 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Grant Overview

This program helps states, tribes, and territories develop hazard mitigation plans and rebuild following a presidential major disaster declaration in a way that reduces or mitigates future disaster losses in their communities. Eligible applicants are the emergency management agencies or similar offices of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and federally recognized tribes. Eligible sub applicants include state agencies, federally recognized tribes, local governments/communities, and private nonprofit organizations.

Program History

A program history is unavailable.

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Varies

Match: 25 percent

Solicitation date: Program opens after the announcement of a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration.

Proposal due: Varies by disaster

<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program>



Tips

- State and local governments may apply for funding under this program through a state's governor in eligible communities within a state, tribe, or territory
- Applicants must have a FEMA approved Local Hazard Mitigation plan
- The process for states and local governments to receive funding under this program is further explained by FEMA [here](#)

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Agency: Office of Federal Emergency Management (FEMA)

FY 2024 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help states, tribes, and territories develop hazard mitigation plans and rebuild following a presidential major disaster declaration in a way that reduces or mitigates future disaster losses in their communities. Awards will be provided for hazard mitigation activities that include long-term efforts to reduce the impact of future disasters. For the purposes of this program, hazard mitigation includes long-term efforts to reduce the impact of future disasters. Eligible risk reduction projects include:

- Planning and enforcement, including:
 - Developing and adopting hazard mitigation plans
 - Acquisition of hazard-prone homes and businesses that will enable owners to relocate to safer areas
 - Post-disaster code enforcement
- Flood protection, including:
 - Protecting homes and businesses with permanent barriers to prevent floodwater from entering
 - Elevating structure above known flood levels to prevent and reduce losses
 - Reconstructing a damaged dwelling on an elevated foundation to prevent and reduce future flood losses
 - Drainage improvement projects to reduce flooding
- Retrofitting, including:
 - Structural retrofits to make a building more resistant to floods, earthquakes, wind, wildfire, and other natural hazards
 - Retrofits to utilities and other infrastructure to enhance resistance to natural hazards
- Construction, including:
 - Construction of safe rooms for both communities and individual residences in areas prone to hurricane and tornado activity
 - Slope stabilization projects to prevent and reduce losses to structures

This program only accepts applications following an applicable presidential major disaster declaration. Should the program open, applicable disaster declarations and deadlines to apply for this program will be posted online at www.fema.gov/disasters. Deadlines will be disaster-specific.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are the emergency management agencies or similar officers of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and federally recognized tribes. Each state, territory, commonwealth, or federally recognized tribe must designate

one agency to serve as the applicant. All interested sub applicants must apply to the applicant. Eligible sub applicants include state agencies, federally recognized tribes, local governments/communities, and private nonprofit organizations.

Applicants must have a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)- approved mitigation plan at the time of the presidential major disaster declaration, and at the time HMGP funding is obligated to the recipient or subrecipient. There is no mitigation plan requirement for the development of a new mitigation plan.

Funding

In FY 2024, there is an unspecified amount of funding available to support awards through this program. The maximum amount of funding available is calculated using a “sliding scale” formula based on a percentage of the estimated total federal assistance available under the Stafford Act, excluding administrative costs for each presidential major disaster declaration.

Applicants with a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-approved state or tribal standard mitigation plan may receive:

- Up to 15 percent of the first \$2 billion of the estimated aggregate amount of disaster assistance
- Up to 10 percent for the next portion of the estimated aggregate amount more than \$2 billion and up to \$10 billion
- Up to 7.5 percent for the next portion of the estimate aggregate amount more than \$10 billion and up to \$35,333,000,000

Applicants with a FEMA-approved state or tribal enhanced mitigation plan are eligible to receive up to 20 percent of the estimated total federal assistance under the Stafford Act, not to exceed \$35,333,000,000, excluding administrative costs authorized for the disaster. Advance assistance may be available in the amount of up to 25 percent of the HMGP ceiling.

The project period will begin with the opening of the application period and end no later than 48 months from the close of the application period. The regional administrator may issue up to two extensions of the project period of up to 12 months each. Requests to extend the project period beyond a total of 24 months must be approved by the funding agency's headquarters.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must provide at least 25 percent of the total project costs via cash and/or in-kind contributions. Applicants may choose to meet the match requirement by ensuring a minimum 25 percent cost share for the overall HMGP award rather than on an individual subaward basis. The required cost share may be waived in certain cases for insular areas, including American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Contact Information

Program Staff

(866) 222-3580

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<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY 2025 National Dam Safety Program State Assistance – Spring Grant

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to encourage the establishment and maintenance of effective State programs intended to ensure dam safety, to protect human life and property, and to improve State dam safety programs. Eligible applicants are state dam safety programs for eligible entities meeting the statutory definition of a “state.”

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024 Spring	\$7.5 million	49
2024 Fall	\$24.2 million	50
2023	\$6.25 million	50
2022	\$10.854 million	50

Key Information

Total Funding: \$7.48 million

Award Range: \$40,000 - \$550,000

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: July 28, 2025

Proposal due: August 11, 2025

<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/360155>



Awardee Profile

North Carolina Department
of Environmental Quality

AMOUNT: \$222,796

YEAR: 2024 Spring

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality received funding to inspect and assess dams, and develop emergency action plans, promote public awareness of dams, and increase state employees’ capacity through learning and training opportunities (conferences, seminars, and dissemination of national-level risk prioritization criteria).

Department: U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY 2025 National Dam Safety Program State Assistance

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to encourage the establishment and maintenance of effective State programs intended to ensure dam safety, to protect human life and property, and to improve State dam safety programs. The objectives of this program are to:

- Identify deficiencies and risks associated with dams
- Increase public awareness of the benefits and risks associated with dam infrastructure, and potential hazards associated with dam failure
- Advance the state of practice of dam safety and dam risk management

Eligible project types include:

- Perform targeted safety inspections of High Hazard (HH) dams/dams of highest consequence.
- Perform targeted condition assessment and evaluations of reservoirs and high hazard dams/dams of highest consequence.
- Development of new or updated Emergency Action Plan (EAP) of HH dams / dams of highest consequence.
- Perform regulatory enforcement actions: Implement enforcement actions to compel the dam owner of an unsafe high hazard potential dam to take action to reduce the risk associated with the dam. Regulatory enforcement actions may include, but not limited to, official notice of violation, civil or criminal penalties, reservoir restrictions, or safe breaching of the dam.
- Execution of targeted outreach and messaging strategies to inform the public and stakeholders of dam risks and actions that individuals/organizations/communities need to take.
- Establish and maintain assessment tool for gauging effectiveness of targeted public outreach about hazards and risks associated with dams.
- Identification of and applied best practices that advance operations of state dam safety programs (includes software programs that assess, monitor, model, and analyze potential and real risk).
- Risk identification analysis and risk prioritization methodologies to inform decision-making in dam rehabilitation or removal projects of High Hazard Potential Dams (HHPD).
- Build or improve a cybersecurity awareness program to promote resources and the implementation of cybersecurity with owners and operators, consistent with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Dams Sector Cybersecurity Implementation Framework Guidance, and/or CISA's Cross-Sector Cybersecurity Performance Goals
- Professional education, workshops, and training on content such as dam operations and safety standards, industry best practices, risk assessment methodologies, and risk communication strategies for dam owners, local officials and emergency managers, and state dam safety staff.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state dam safety programs for eligible entities meeting the statutory definition of a “state.” Per Title 33 United States Code Section 467(10), the term “state” means each of the several states of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States. Subapplicants and subawards are not allowed.

For a state to be eligible for assistance under this program, a state dam safety program must be authorized by state legislation and working toward meeting specific criteria and budgeting requirements. Note only dams that meet the definition in 33 U.S.C. Section 467 are eligible for funding under State Assistance.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately \$7.48 million is available to support an anticipated 50 awards ranging from \$40,000 to \$550,000 through this program.

The anticipated funding selection and award date is September 19, 2025. The projected period of performance starts on the date of award and ends 12 months after the award date.

Matching and Cost Sharing

There is no cost share requirement. However, the award amount may not exceed 4 times the amount of funds committed by the state for dam safety activities.

Contact Information

Jena’i Jordan

National Dam Safety Program Officer

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<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/360155>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FY 2025 National Fish Passage Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide technical and financial assistance to partners to remove instream barriers and restore aquatic connectivity, improve community safety, and support local economies. Eligible applicants include state, local, and special district governments; independent school districts; institutions of higher education; tribal governments and organizations; housing authorities; nonprofits, small businesses; for-profit organizations; and individuals.

Program History

Year	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	\$9.2 million	150
2022	\$38 million	40

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Up to \$10 million

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: September 3, 2025

Proposal due: December 31, 2025

<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-fish-passage>



Awardee Profile

Kenai Peninsula Borough, AK

AMOUNT: \$780,000

YEAR: 2023

This project will replace a culvert on Tyonek Creek near the Native Village of Tyonek, A Dena'ina Athabascan community in remote western Cook Inlet, Alaska. This project benefits Coho and pink salmon, both vitally important environmentally, economically, culturally and as a subsistence resource.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FY 2025 National Fish Passage Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide technical and financial assistance to partners to remove instream barriers and restore aquatic connectivity, improve community safety, and support local economies. Aquatic connectivity promotes adaptation and resilience by enabling aquatic species to adapt, disperse, and adjust to changes in the quality and distribution of habitats, including shifts in habitats and in species geographic ranges. Fish passage projects benefit communities by reducing flood risk, improving recreational opportunities, and improving roads while supporting native fish populations and aquatic ecosystems. NFPP project examples include:

- Dam removals
- Culvert replacements
- Floodplain restoration
- Installation of fishways

The goal of the NFPP is to restore ecological connectivity of the Nation's aquatic systems to the maximum extent possible to reconnect fluvial and tidal processes that enable native fish and other aquatic organisms to access a full range of habitat types to meet their life history needs seasonally and annually.

Fish passage projects aim to restore flows, processes, and aquatic species movement by fully or partially removing barriers or providing effective means of bypassing them. The program works on a voluntary basis with Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments, as well as private partners and stakeholders.

Certified Local Governments are encouraged to prioritize projects in support of the celebration of America's 250th birthday (American250). This may include, but is not limited to, preservation planning, interpretation, public engagement, and rehabilitation projects that recognize and honor the nation's founding, history, and cultural heritage.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include state, local, and special district governments; independent school districts; institutions of higher education; tribal governments and organizations; housing authorities; nonprofits, small businesses; for-profit organizations; and individuals.

Funding Details

In FY 2025, approximately \$10,000,000 is available to support approximately 100 awards up to \$1,000,000.

Cost Sharing and Matching

Matching funds are not required for this program. However, the funder may give preference to projects leveraging partner support. The program strives for an overall 1:1 partner match, which may include both in-

kind and financial resources. A strength of the program is the ability to develop partnerships to leverage technical and financial assistance to maximize conservation resources and benefits to native aquatic species.

Contact Information

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<https://www.fws.gov/program/national-fish-passage>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects (Small Storage Program)

Grant Overview

This program provides funding to enhance water storage opportunities for future generations in support of the Department of Interior's priorities. Eligible applicants are state governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, independent school districts, institutions of higher education, Native American Tribal governments and organizations, public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, nonprofits, Individuals, for-profit organizations and small businesses. Joint powers authorities organized pursuant to state law are also eligible.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	\$35 million	5

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$43.5 million

Award Range: Up to \$30 million

Match: 75 percent

Solicitation date: September 4, 2024

Proposal due: Period 1: December 12, 2024. Period 2: July 15, 2025.

- Applications received after December 12, 2024, and before July 15, 2025 will be considered under Period 2.

<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/356327>



Awardee Profile

Rancho California Water District

AMOUNT: \$9,100,000

YEAR: 2024

The Rancho California Water District's Pauba Valley Groundwater Banking Project receive funding to provide approximately 5,000 acre-feet of excess imported water to recharge the Pauba Valley groundwater subunit. This water will be available for use during dry years to help serve potable water demands in the district, including agricultural demands.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects (Small Storage Program)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to invite sponsors of small surface water and groundwater storage projects to request cost-shared funding for the planning, design, and/or construction of those projects. Eligible projects under this program include the planning, design, and construction of small surface water and groundwater storage facilities. Eligible projects must meet the following requirements:

- A project must have a completed small storage feasibility study submitted to Reclamation for review by August 15, 2024 for applications submitted under the first submittal period, and by April 30, 2025 for applications submitted under the second submittal period.
- Completed small storage feasibility studies must be found by Reclamation to meet the all of the requirements of [CMP TRMR-127](#) by November 15, 2024 for applications submitted under the first submittal period, and by July 15, 2025 for applications submitted under the second submittal period.
- Projects must be located in the Western United States as identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, as amended and supplemented; specifically: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.
- Projects must be ready to proceed once a financial agreement is in place.
- Projects must have water storage capacity of not less than 200 acre-feet and not more than 30,000 acre-feet, and increase surface water or groundwater storage, or convey water, directly or indirectly, to or from surface water or groundwater storage.
- The project must increase yield, on average, above existing conditions to identified beneficiaries and the environment.

This program also advances the Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative with a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments, such as climate, clean energy, and other areas, flow to disadvantaged communities that are overburdened by pollution and marginalized by underinvestment.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, independent school districts, institutions of higher education, Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized) and organizations, public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, nonprofits, Individuals, for-profit organizations and small businesses. Joint powers authorities organized pursuant to state law are also eligible.

Funding

In FY 2025, approximately \$43.5 million is available to support an estimated 3 – 7 awards of up to \$30 million through this program.

The funding agency may award the maximum award amount in Federal funds to an applicant over the 5-year period, with no more than \$25,000,000 available per fiscal year. The average amount of funding per Federal award, based on previous funding opportunities, is about \$5,000,000.

The anticipated award and completion dates are as follows:

- First Application Submittal Period, closing date December 12, 2024
 - Anticipated Award Date: July 2025
 - Anticipated Project Completion Date: December 2027
- Second Application Submittal Period, closing date July 15, 2025
 - Anticipated Award Date: March 2026
 - Anticipated Project Completion Date: July 2028

The Federal share of any small surface water or groundwater storage project shall not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost, or \$30 million.

Matching and Cost-Sharing

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 75 percent or more of the total project costs. The total project cost is defined as the total allowable costs incurred under a federal award and all required cost share and voluntary committed cost-share contributions, including third-party contributions.

Applicants may cost share through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions are the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the Federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties, without charge. The applicant should secure and ensure cost-share funding from sources outside the applicant's organization (e.g., loans or State grants) is available prior to award.

Other sources of Federal funding received by the applicant for the project may not be counted towards the required non-Federal cost share. The exception to this requirement is where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for a program can be applied to matching or cost-sharing requirements of other Federal programs, such as awards to tribal organizations under PL 93-638, as amended. If Reclamation determines that the Federal funding cannot be applied towards the non-Federal cost share, the work associated with the funding may be removed from the proposed project or the Federal funding will be counted toward the 25 percent Federal cost share for the project.

Contact Information

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<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/356327>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Grant Overview

WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects provide funding for the restoration and protection of aquatic ecosystems. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in Reclamation States, including entities and organizations that own a dam that is eligible for upgrade, modification, or removal. Nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above or that notify entities listed above are also eligible to apply.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	\$91.96 million	19

Key Information

Total Funding: \$95,000,000
Award Range: Up to \$10 million depending on category
Match: 35 percent
Solicitation date: December 10, 2024
Proposal due: April 15, 2025 (First application period)
<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html>



Awardee Profile

City of Sacramento,
 Programmatic Evaluation and
 Design of Juvenile Salmonid
 Rearing Habitat Restoration
 Sites

AMOUNT: \$650,000

YEAR: 2024

The City of Sacramento will carry out a programmatic evaluation and produce restoration site designs for 30-acres of rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids on a 17-mile stretch of the lower American River in Sacramento. The City plans to create optimal salmonid rearing habitat and restore natural riparian conditions by conducting a baseline assessment of the area and carrying-out wetland delineation.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support the study, design, and construction of aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that are collaboratively developed; have widespread regional benefits; and are for the purpose of improving the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration and improved fish passage. As used here, “aquatic ecosystem” refers to freshwater and brackish water habitats such as lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, wetlands, swamps, and estuaries and the adjacent floodplains, riparian corridors, deltas, and shallow aquifers that interact with surface water.

To be eligible under this funding opportunity, the project must be for the purpose of improving the health of fisheries, wildlife and/or aquatic habitat, including through habitat restoration and/or improved fish passage via the removal or bypass of barriers.

Projects proposed for funding must have a clear nexus to aquatic ecosystems and be transformational in nature, providing clear and significant ecological benefits. Generally, project footprints should be limited to riparian, floodplain, and/or in-stream restoration work or other activities. Upland or dryland restoration projects with limited connection to aquatic ecosystems may be better suited for other Federal grant opportunities. Proposed projects will be reviewed by the Program Office to determine whether the application is eligible for evaluation.

Applicants can apply for funding for projects in one of two task areas:

- **Task A: Study and Design:** Projects must include study and design activities to develop an aquatic ecosystem restoration project, resulting in the development of a study and design package that can be used to apply for funding under Task B. To be eligible for Task B: Construction, applicants must have conducted study and design activities resulting in a design package at a 60 percent design level. A 60 percent design package should include technical study and design documentation supporting the preferred alternative in sufficient detail to be able to obtain the necessary permits and estimate funding required for project implementation. Prior to applying for Task A: Study and Design funding, it is expected that applicants will have already performed some general planning work and preliminary studies (e.g., a watershed restoration plan, planning on a river/stream-reach scale, or other planning effort) that was inclusive of stakeholder input and that led to the identification of a specific restoration concept and prioritization of the restoration project(s). Eligible activities may include, but are not limited to:
 - Project Outreach
 - Restoration Project Design Alternatives Analysis
 - Project Analysis and Design

- Complete site-specific design and engineering of the restoration project to reach a target 60 percent level of final project design
 - Preparation of project cost estimates and development of project construction plan
 - Legal and Institutional Requirements Research
- **Task B: Construction:** Projects must include the construction of aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that are collaboratively developed, have widespread regional benefits, and are for the purpose of improving the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration and improved fish passage. Proposed projects submitted by the April 15, 2025 application deadline should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to December 31, 2025, and proposed projects submitted by the February 17, 2026 application deadline should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to November 1, 2026. Projects eligible for funding under Task B may include the following activities:
 - Completion of Final Design for Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Construction
 - Outreach to Affected Stakeholders
 - Restoration Activities
 - Removal or Modification of Barriers to Fish Passage
 - Restoration of Connectivity
 - Restoration of Aquatic Habitat
 - Improvement of Water Availability, Quality, and Temperature
 - Monitoring Plan Development, Baseline Assessment, and Equipment Installation

Projects that include the removal or modification of a dam must submit documentation verifying the dam owner has agreed to the study, design, or construction of the project and that impacted water or power delivery customers have been notified.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are divided into Categories outlined below.

- **Category A applicants:** States, Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; state, regional, or local authorities, the members of which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; agencies established under State law for the joint exercise of powers; and other entities or organizations that own a dam that is eligible for upgrade, modification, or removal.
- **Category B applicants:** Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A. Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner stating that the Category A partner:
 - Is acting in partnership with the applicant;
 - Agrees to the submittal and content of the application; and
 - Intends to participate in the project in some way, for example, by providing input, feedback, or other support for the project.

All applicants must be located in a Reclamation State. The Reclamation States are defined as the following 17 States and 4 Territories: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Funding

In FY 2025 and FY 2026, up to \$95 million of funding is available to support approximately 10 to 20 projects during each application submittal period. Project awards will be made through grants or cooperative agreements as applicable to each project. Task A project awards are anticipated to range from \$500,000 - \$2 million per project and Task B project awards are anticipated to range from \$3 million to \$10 million per project. Task A projects are expected to be completed in two years and Task B projects are expected to be completed in five years.

The anticipated award date from the first application deadline is January 30, 2026. Task A projects will have an anticipated project completion date of January 30, 2028, and Task B projects will have an anticipated project completion date of January 30, 2031. The anticipated award date from the second application deadline is November 20, 2026. Task A projects will have an anticipated project completion date of November 20, 2028, and Task B projects will have an anticipated project completion date of November 20, 2031.

Matching and Cost Sharing

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 35 percent or more of the total project costs. The total project cost is defined as the total allowable costs incurred under a Federal award and all required cost share and voluntary committed cost share contributions, including third-party contributions. This cost-sharing requirement is not applicable to American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions include the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the Federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties, without charge. Cost-share funding from sources outside the applicant's organization (e.g., loans or state grants) should be secured and available to the applicant prior to award.

Contact Information

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

Grant Overview

The WaterSMART Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by providing financial assistance to develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resilience to drought. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other state, regional, or local authorities with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States, as well as nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2024	\$147.6 million	42
2023	\$84 million	36
2022	\$20.5 million	13

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Varies by category

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation date: July 24, 2024

Proposal due: October 7, 2024

<https://www.usbr.gov/drought/>



Awardee Profile

City of Gallup, New Mexico

AMOUNT: \$9.5 million

YEAR: 2024

The City of Gallup received funding to construct a new well for potable water supplies to provide water to the city, the Navajo Nation, and parts of McKinley County.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2025 WaterSMART Drought Response Program Drought Resiliency Project Grants

Detailed Summary

The WaterSMART Drought Response Program supports a proactive approach to drought by providing financial assistance to develop and update comprehensive drought plans and implement projects that will build long-term resilience to drought. This program will support projects that can increase water management flexibility and reliability to help entities prepare for and address the impacts of drought and water supply shortages.

Projects that may be funded under this program are divided into four task areas:

- **Task A:** Increasing the reliability of water supplies through infrastructure improvements, including:
 - System modifications or improvements
 - Constructing or modifying surface water intakes to access supplies when water levels are low (e.g., at dead pool), or to allow access at different locations.
 - Constructing new conveyance system components (pipelines, canals, pumping plants, etc.) to increase flexibility to deliver water from different sources, to facilitate voluntary water marketing or to deliver water from alternative sources.
 - Constructing interties between water conveyance systems to increase options for water deliveries.
 - Installing barriers or other facilities to prevent saltwater intrusion into surface supplies.
 - Storing water and/or recharging groundwater supplies
 - Developing or expanding small-scale surface water storage facilities such as off-stream storage ponds.
 - Installing water towers and storage tanks to store water for municipal and domestic use.
 - Installing recharge ponds or injection wells to increase recharge of surplus, inactive, or reclaimed water. Recharged water can serve multiple purposes such as sustainable conjunctive use in times of drought, deterring saltwater.
 - Developing alternate sources of water supply including water treatment
 - Constructing or expanding small-scale water treatment facilities to treat impaired groundwater, municipal wastewater, stormwater runoff, for environmental, agricultural, or potable purposes.
 - Constructing stormwater capture and reuse systems, including green stormwater infrastructure solutions such as rain gardens, cisterns, and bioswales
 - Installing residential grey water and rain catchment systems.
- **Task B:** Increasing the reliability of water supplies through groundwater through:
 - Constructing wells to provide back-up water supplies during times of drought.

- Constructing extraction wells at groundwater banks or other recharge areas to improve extraction and return capabilities during dry years.
- Constructing an aquifer storage and recovery well.
- Treating impaired groundwater for beneficial use.
- **Task C:** Improving water management through decision support tools, modeling, and measurement, including:
 - Developing water management and modeling tools to help communities evaluate options and implement strategies to address drought.
 - Installing water measurement equipment and monitoring instrumentation devices to accurately track water supply conditions.
- **Task D:** Construction of domestic water supply projects of which the primary purpose is to provide domestic water supplies to Tribal or disadvantaged communities that do not have reliable access to water supplies. This can include the development of new supplies and/or associated infrastructure for treatment and delivery.

Proposed projects must include activities beyond routine water management required by state law for conservation and efficiency and must have ongoing benefits to build long-term resilience to drought. In addition, projects should help avoid the need for emergency response actions, such as water hauling programs and temporary infrastructure. Applicants must also demonstrate that the proposed project is supported by an existing drought planning effort.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other state, regional, or local authorities with water or power delivery authority. Applicants must be located in the western U.S., which includes the states and territories of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands. Additionally, nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership and with the agreement of an entity described above are eligible.

Applicants may seek funding under one application for multiple project components that include one or a combination of tasks if the project components are interrelated or closely related (e.g., a project to construct a new storage and conveyance system [Task A] coupled with a decision support tool for operation of the system [Task C]). However, if the projects are only loosely related, separate applications need to be submitted.

Funding

In FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support an estimated 20-40 awards through this program. Awards are provided through separate funding groups:

For Categories A through C:

- **Group I:** Up to \$750,000 will be available for projects generally completed within two years
- **Group II:** Up to \$3,000,000 will be available for projects completed within three years and funded on an annual basis, contingent upon future appropriations

Category A entities are limited to a total of \$3,000,000. Category B applicants may be considered for multiple awards up to a total of \$15,000,000, if the Category A partners are different for each project selected

For Category D:

- Up to \$10,000,000 will be available for the construction of domestic water supply projects for Tribes or disadvantaged communities that do not have reliable access to water supplies and will be completed within three years

The anticipated award date is September 1, 2025.

Matching and Cost-Share

Applicants applying for funding under Tasks A-C must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs. Applicants applying for funding through Task D must provide a five percent cost-share of the total project's costs.

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<https://www.usbr.gov/drought/>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Interior
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024/2025 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Grant Overview

This program supports projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, implement renewable energy components, and support broader sustainability benefits. Projects will conserve and use water more efficiently, increase the production of renewable energy, mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict, and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western United States. Eligible applicants are states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, any state, regional, or local authority whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the Western United States, as well as nonprofit conservation organizations working in partnership with the entities listed above.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2023	\$140 million	84

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified
Award Range: Varies by funding type
Match: 50 percent
Solicitation date: November 15, 2023
Proposal due: February 22, 2024 (Application Period 1),
November 13, 2024 (Application Period 2)

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg/>



Awardee Profile

City of Hemet, CA

AMOUNT: \$100,000

YEAR: 2023

This project received funding to implement a rebate program for residential and commercial water users to convert up to 90,000 square feet of turf lawns to drought tolerant landscaping. The project is expected to result in annual water savings of 8 acre feet, which will reduce the city's need to pump groundwater.

Department: U.S. Department of Interior

Agency: Bureau of Reclamation

FY 2024/2025 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, implement renewable energy components, and support broader sustainability benefits. Projects should conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of hydropower; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; enable farmers to make additional on-farm improvements; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the western United States. Ultimately, the aim of the funding agency is to stretch and secure water supplies for future generations.

Eligible projects under this program include:

- Water conservation projects: projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings or improved water management, including:
 - Canal lining/piping projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
 - Municipal metering projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
 - Irrigation flow measurement projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
 - Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) and automation projects that line or pipe canals, resulting in conserved water
 - Landscape irrigation measures projects that provide water savings by reducing outdoor water usage. These measures include turf removal, smart irrigation controllers (weather or soil-moisture based) and high-efficiency nozzles (sprinkler heads).
 - High-efficiency indoor appliances and fixtures projects that promote installation of high-efficiency indoor appliances and fixtures to provide water savings for municipal water entities where there is significant potential for replacing existing non-efficient indoor appliances and fixtures
 - Commercial cooling systems projects to retrofit or replace large evaporative cooling units (cooling towers) to reduce consumptive water use and energy, such as conversion to air-cooled units or high-efficiency cooling towers
- Renewable energy projects: projects that increase the use of renewable energy sources in managing and delivering water and/or projects that upgrade existing water management facilities resulting in quantifiable and sustained energy savings. Projects include but are not limited to:
 - Developing new hydropower capacity by installing a new hydropower facility or upgrading (i.e., increasing) the capacity of an existing hydropower facility
 - Bringing existing mothballed hydropower capacity back online through facility investment
 - Installing solar-electric, wind energy, or geothermal power systems

Projects that include renewable energy components will typically require additional permitting not needed for water management improvements. Improvement to federal facilities must comply with all additional federal requirements.

This program prioritizes projects that address a specific water and/or energy sustainability concern(s), including enhancing drought resilience, addressing the current and future impacts of climate change, and resolving water related conflicts in the region. Points will be awarded for other project benefits that demonstrate support for the Biden Administration's priorities including combatting the climate crisis, supporting disadvantaged or underserved communities, and providing tribal benefits.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are classified under two categories.

Category A - applicants include states, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, any state, regional, or local authority whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Category B - applicants include nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with, and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A.

Applicants must be located in the western U.S., which includes the states and territories of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Funding

In FY 2024 and FY 2025, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. Reclamation will determine the final amount of funding available based on final FY 2024 and FY 2025 appropriations, as well as funding available under the Bipartisan Infrastructure law in FY 2024 and FY 2025. An estimated 40-50 awards will be available in each application period.

Category A applicants are limited to a total of \$5,000,000 in Federal funding per application period while Category B applicants may be considered for multiple awards up to a total of \$15,000,000 per application period, if the Category A partners are different for each project selected.

Awards are provided through three separate funding groups:

- Funding Group I: An unspecified amount of funding is available for awards of up to \$500,000 in funding with a project period of 2 years.
- Funding Group II: An unspecified amount of funding is available for awards of up to up to \$2,000,000 in funding with a project period of 3 years.
- Funding Group III: An unspecified amount of funding is available for awards of up to \$5,000,000 in funding with a project period of 3 years.

The anticipated award date for application period one projects is December 31, 2024 and the anticipated award date for application period two projects is October 31, 2025. Proposed projects for Application Period 1 should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to December 31, 2024. Proposed projects

for Application Period 2 should not have an estimated construction start date that is prior to October 31, 2025.

Matching and Cost-Share

Applicants must be capable of cost sharing 50 percent or more of the total project costs. Cost share may be made through cash, costs contributed by the applicant, or third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions include the value of non-cash contributions of property or services that benefit the federally assisted project and are contributed by non-Federal third parties, without charge. Applicants from the American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Virgin Islands are not required to provide a match.

Contact Information

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<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg/>