

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

2010 Targeted Watersheds Grants Program: Urban Watershed Capacity Building Grant

Frequently Asked Questions

How do we obtain the directions and grant applications for this grant?

Directions on how to apply can be found in Section IV of the RFP. Grant application forms, including Standard Forms (SF) 424 and SF 424A, are available at http://epa.gov/ogd/grants/how_to_apply.htm and by mail upon request.

Can funds be used for salaries to administer this program if we are not currently doing a program exactly like this?

Funds can be used for personnel salary. This amount would be listed in the personnel line of the Standard Form 424A. Applicants must provide a detailed budget and estimated funding amount for each task/project. See section IV for instructions on budget.

Will EPA be awarding just one grant with these funds, or several?

EPA anticipates awarding one cooperative agreement under this announcement with a three year project period.

Is a recommendation from the state's Governor's Office needed for this proposal?

The gubernatorial recommendation is not required for this RFP.

Do EPA announcements usually have such a short window (less than 60 days)? Did an appropriation finally come through that caused you, by its parameters, to move quickly?

EPA is allowed to keep a competition open for 45 calendar days from the date the announcement is posted on the Program Office website. The TWG received no new appropriation; these were uncommitted funds from a previous year.

Please clarify whether commitment letters are required in advance that document the full amount of the match (the RFP indicates they are to be included in attachments), or does that mean include any that are available but that it is otherwise adequate simply to indicate in our proposal where we expect those funds would come from?

Applicants must demonstrate in their proposal submission how they will contribute a minimum non-federal cost share/match of 25 percent of the total project cost (total federal share and applicant cost share/match).

You have specified that the urban watershed subaward program must be competitive and at the same time, you also request measurable outputs and outcomes. Can you please clarify how you envision applicants identifying those outputs and outcomes – other than hypothetically – without knowing who the subawardees will be?

The capacity building projects funded as subawards are expected to help subawardees to examine water-related problems in the context of the urban area in which they exist, develop solutions to those problems by creatively applying the full array of available tools, including identification of federal, state, and local programs that may support the solutions, and promote the protection of water resources through strategic planning and implementation that draws in public and private sector partners.

Applicants must describe the anticipated products/results (outputs) and anticipated environmental improvements (outcomes) which are expected to be achieved from accomplishment of the project activities, and describe an approach for tracking progress toward achieving the expected outputs and outcomes.

Expected environmental outputs (or deliverables) refer to an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal or objective, that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date.

Environmental outcomes are the result, effect, or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective, and are used as a way to gauge a project's performance.

Is there any reason we should not solicit letters of support from potential subawardees, provided they understand that the subaward program will be a competitive one?

EPA encourages applicants to identify in their proposals a broad applicant pool for the competitive subaward program.

Would a potential eligible co-applicant (not providing commercial goods or services) have to be competitively selected? If so, would that process need to be complete prior to May 19?

Funding may be used to fund partnerships, provided the recipient complies with applicable requirements contained in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate.