

Welcome to the Introduction to EPA Grants training.

The webinar will begin shortly.

Note: This training is intended to provide basic information on the EPA grant process for those who may be first-time applicants. This webinar will not cover the specific technical requirements of the upcoming American Rescue Plan (ARP) competitive grant for enhanced air quality monitoring.

EPA continues to draft the ARP request for applications (RFA) and consider comments that we received during August's Insight & Feedback sessions. Today's webinar is a result of feedback requesting additional guidance on the general grants process.

Later this fall, EPA anticipates holding an informational webinar on the ARP competitive grant once the final RFA is posted.

Additional Training: Grants Management Training

Module 1: Introduction

Module 2: Demonstrating Financial Management System and Internal Controls Capability

Module 3: Applying for a Grant

Module 4: Accepting a Grant Award

Module 5: Managing a Grant

Module 6: Closing Out a grant

Check it out: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-management-training-applicants-and-recipients>

Additional Training:

How to Develop a Budget Training

Module 1: General Principles and Considerations

Module 2: Direct Costs

Module 3: Other Direct Cost

Module 4: Indirect Costs

Check it out: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/how-develop-budget>

A large, faint watermark of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) logo is centered in the background. The logo features a stylized flower with three leaves and a sun-like shape above it, surrounded by the text "UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY".

Competition

The basics on competing for EPA assistance programs

September 2021

EPA Grants Update Listserv

Sign up today to receive timely notifications about:

- new guidance and information posted on this website
- new trainings and webinars available to potential applicants and recipients
- changes in grants management requirements
- other pertinent general grants information

Sign up here: [EPA Grants Info Listserv](#)

COVID-19 Grant Flexibilities

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment has issued

[RAIN-2020-G02 EPA Frequent Questions on Grant Issues in Response to the Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency](#)

FQs relating to:

- Grant procedures
- Allowable costs
- Disruption of operations
- Procurements
- Extensions
- Grant competitions
- Suspension and debarment



Update to 2 CFR 200

- See [Guidance for Grants and Agreements](#) published in the Federal Register for details
 - Sec. 200.216 and 200.340 went into effect August 13, 2020
 - See [RAIN-2020-G05](#) for details



Communications with Applicants

- See Section 11 of the [Competition Policy](#)
- Limitations on what can be discussed and when
- Pre-proposal Assistance
 - Many programs will post Q&As on a website
 - Some programs offer conference calls/webinars where applicants can ask questions
 - This type of information is usually in Section IV or VII of announcements, if applicable

Communications with Applicants

- EPA **can**:
 - Answer applicant eligibility questions-if uncertain if you are eligible or your project is eligible ask before proposal submission
 - Clarify info on administrative aspects of proposal submission
 - Respond to requests for clarification of the announcement

NOTE: Clarifications that result in changes to the announcement must be communicated (via modification to the announcement) to all potential applicants

Communications with Applicants

- EPA **cannot**:
 - Offer to write applications for applicants
 - Review or comment on draft applications
 - Provide information on the Agency's approach to evaluating applications beyond what is described in Section V of the announcement
 - Provide a competitive advantage to any applicant

Finding EPA Competitive Opportunities on Grants.gov

- Find current competitive opportunities
 - Synopses includes important info: funding amounts, eligible entities, submission deadline, and more
- Searchable by Assistance Listing number (CFDA number), keyword, agency, type of entity, etc
 - [Discretionary Competitive Grant Programs at EPA](#)
 - OAR's American Rescue Plan competition will be listed under 66.034 and linked from <https://www.epa.gov/amtic/american-rescue-plan>
- Sign up for automatic notifications of opportunities

Applying on Grants.gov

- Apply online using Grants.gov (required for initial application)
 - Must Register – Obtain Unique Entity Identifier (e.g. DUNS), register with SAM, Setup Username/password, authorization
 - Please Note: **As of April 2022**, the DUNS number will no longer be the official identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government. Information about this transition can be found at The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)'s [website](#). See EPA's [RAIN-2021-G01](#).
 - *Ensure when you apply for an opportunity that the DUNS listed on the application is assigned to your organization; if it isn't you may be deemed ineligible*



NEW

Applying on Grants.gov Workspace

- Workspace is the only method of submitting an application
 - Reuse forms & auto-populate data
 - Collaborative
 - Detect errors earlier
 - Best submission process for users with connectivity issues
- Learn more about [Workspace](#)

View our [recorded webinar](#) training about Workspace

Reminder: Federal agencies do not publish personal financial assistance opportunities on Grants.gov. Federal funding opportunities published on Grants.gov are for organizations and entities supporting the development and management of government-funded programs and projects. For more information about personal financial assistance benefits, please visit Benefits.gov.

Convenience Comes to Federal Grants

Download the Grants.gov Mobile App to search and submit on the go.



SEARCH GRANTS

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:

Keyword(s):

SORT BY:

DATE RANGE:

Funding Opp #:

CFDA Number:

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:

Open (2065) Closed (1396) Archived (19938)

FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:

- All Funding Instruments
- Cooperative Agreement (568)
- Grant (1630)
- Other (43)
- Procurement Contract (42)

ELIGIBILITY:

- All Eligibilities
- City or township governments (1008)
- County governments (1018)
- For profit organizations other than small businesses (952)

CATEGORY:

- All Categories
- Agriculture (31)
- Arts (see 'Cultural Affairs' in CFDA) (6)
- Business and Commerce (15)
- Community Development (29)

AGENCY:

- All Agencies
- All Agency for International Development (63)
- All Corporation for National and Community Service (2)

1 - 25 OF 2065 MATCHING RESULTS: [« Previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) ... [83](#) [Next »](#)

Funding Opportunity #	Opportunity Title	Agency	Open Date ↓	Close Date
AMS-NOP-13-0061	Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost-Share Program FY 2013	Agricultural Marketing Service	08/01/2013	08/30/2013
SA-SYLEP-800-13-GR-51	Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program	U.S. Mission to Saudi Arabia	08/01/2013	08/30/2013
G13AS00105	Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Gulf Coast CESU	Geological Survey	08/01/2013	08/12/2013
G13AS00109	Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Great Basin CESU	Geological Survey	08/01/2013	08/12/2013
G13AS00110	Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Great Lakes Northern Forest CESU	Geological Survey	08/01/2013	08/12/2013
NPS-13-NEO-0107	Assessment of natural resource conditions at Hopewell Furnace NHS, Gettysburg NMP, and Eisenhower NHS	National Park Service	08/01/2013	08/06/2013
PAR-13-300	NLM Express Research Grants in Biomedical Informatics (R01)	National Institutes of Health	08/01/2013	09/07/2016
PAR-13-301	The Role of the Cytoskeleton in Cellular Aging (R21/R33)	National Institutes of Health	08/01/2013	09/07/2016
G13AS00106	Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Gulf Coast CESU	Geological Survey	08/01/2013	08/12/2013
PAR-13-295	Biomarkers: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Therapeutics (R21)	National Institutes of Health	08/01/2013	09/07/2016
PAR-13-296	Biomarkers: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Therapeutics (R01)	National Institutes of Health	08/01/2013	09/07/2016
PAR-13-299	Biomarkers: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Therapeutics (R03)	National Institutes of Health	08/01/2013	09/07/2016
L13AS00170	BLM AK CESU - Scenario Planning for Energy and Resources Development	Bureau of Land Management	08/01/2013	08/23/2013
NOAA-NMFS-PRPO-2014-2003832	FY 2014 Species Recovery Grants to Tribes	Department of Commerce	08/01/2013	10/29/2013
NOAA-NMFS-PRPO-2014-2003811	Species Recovery Grants to States (Section 6 Program)	Department of Commerce	08/01/2013	10/29/2013
NNH13ZDA001N-PMDAP	ROSES 2013: Planetary Mission Data Analysis Program	NASA Headquarters	08/01/2013	10/11/2013
PA-FPH-14-022	FY14 Region 9 Nevada (not including Clark, Douglas or Washoe counties) Announcement of Anticipated Availability of Funds for Family Planning Services Grants	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health	08/01/2013	04/01/2014
PA-FPH-14-020	FY14 Region 9 Republic of the Marshall Islands Announcement of Anticipated Availability of Funds for Family Planning Services Grants	Office of the Assistant Secretary	08/01/2013	04/01/2014

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Convenience Comes to Federal Grants

Download the Grants.gov Mobile App to search and submit on the go.



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Manage Subscriptions

Customize your Grants.gov opportunity subscriptions, including expanded criteria for saved searches and the ability to view and manage existing subscriptions. To subscribe to Grants.gov email notifications, users must first create a Grants.gov account. [Don't worry - the account registration process is quick and easy.](#)



Custom Email Notifications

When you create a Grants.gov account, you can customize the type of email notifications you receive. Log in and click the links below to subscribe to news updates about system enhancements, notifications about saved searches and new funding opportunities, and more.

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Receive notifications when changes are made to a specific opportunity's forecast, synopsis and/or packages

» [Subscribe to saved searches for grant opportunities](#)

Receive notifications for new opportunities matching saved search criteria

For more information on Grants.gov Subscriptions, please review the [Connect with Grants.gov](#) help article.



Unsubscribe from Email Notifications

Log in and unsubscribe from one (or more) of your Grants.gov email notifications. We strongly recommend that you stay subscribed to Grants.gov Alerts so that you will receive time-sensitive updates about the Grants.gov system.

» [Unsubscribe from Grants.gov email notifications](#)

Competitive Opportunities

- EPA Program Office Websites
 - In addition to Grants.gov, some program office websites have funding opportunity information (ex: Office of Air and Radiation: <http://www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding>)
 - ARP RFA will also be posted to <https://www.epa.gov/amtic/american-rescue-plan>
- Assistance Listings/Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA):
 - <https://sam.gov/content/assistance-listings>
 - Read more about assistance programs
 - Typical funding amounts, types of projects funded, eligible entities, and more
 - ARP will be using assistance listing 66.034

Other Resources

- [Competition Resources](#)
- Grants.gov Resources
 - [Applicant Resources](#)
 - [Organization Registration](#)
 - [Grants.gov User Guide](#)
 - [Workspace Information](#)

Preparing Applications

- Each funding opportunity announcement has unique instructions and requirements
- Read the announcement for:
 - Eligibility information, deadlines, application content, review criteria, and more
- [EPA's Competition Policy](#)
 - Familiarize yourself with EPA's policy on competition

Type of Announcement for ARP

- Request for Application (RFA)
 - Submission includes all forms and certifications necessary for award
 - EPA's standard type of solicitation
 - For a list of forms, see [RAIN 2018-G07 Full Application Submission with Initial Proposal Submission Requirement](#)

Announcement Contents/Highlights

→ See [OMB Format in Title 2 of the CFR](#)

- Section I: Program Description

Describes:

- types of projects
- what the application has to address



Announcement Content/Highlights

- Section II: Federal Award Information
 - expected number of awards
 - expected funding amount
- Section III: Eligibility Info
 - list of eligible entities
 - Cost share/matching requirements if any
 - Threshold eligibility criteria:
 - may include legal, policy, relevance, programmatic, administrative, and/or financial criteria that have the effect of making an applicant, application, or project eligible or ineligible for award

Announcement Highlights

- Section IV: Application and Submission Info
 - Content and form of application
 - Address Section I (program info), Section III (threshold criteria) and Section V (evaluation criteria)
 - Submission method (electronically through grants.gov is required for initial applications)
 - Submission dates and times
 - Open period is at least 45 calendar days for competitions over \$100K
 - Pay attention to deadlines and page limits
 - Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Announcement Highlights

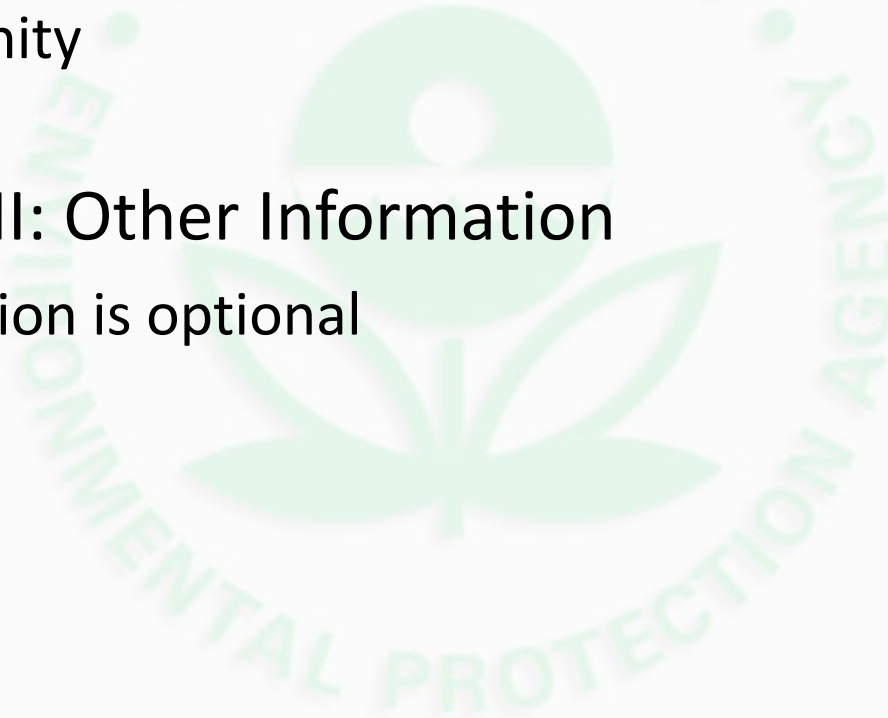
- Section V: Application Review Info
 - Ranking criteria
 - Criteria used to evaluate applications
 - Must address ranking criteria in applications such as
 - Programmatic Capability
 - Past Performance under grants
 - Environmental Results-plan for measuring progress towards achieving outputs/outcomes
 - Timely Expenditure of Grant Funds
 - Budget and Leveraging
 - Technical approach
 - Other factors (in some announcements)
 - Review and selection process

Announcement Highlights

- Section VI: Federal Award Administration Info
 - Award notices
 - Federal Award Requirements
 - Reporting requirements
 - Dispute Resolution Process and Debriefings
 - Debriefings are used for constructive feedback

Announcement Highlights

- Section VII: Federal Awarding Agency Contacts
 - Who to contact with questions about the funding opportunity
- Section VIII: Other Information
 - This section is optional



Modifications

- EPA occasionally modifies announcements
 - Due dates, clarification of requirements, etc
- Automatic Notification
 - Sign up on Grants.gov for automatic notification of modifications to specific announcements
 - Modifications posted on Grants.gov
 - OAR will also post any changes to <https://www.epa.gov/amtic/american-rescue-plan> and <https://www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding>

Competitive Process

1. EPA prepares announcement
2. EPA posts announcement on program office website and grants.gov
3. EPA receives applications from applicants
4. EPA evaluates applications and makes selections
5. Issues awards

Note: Award Official will check the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) prior to award to ensure applicant is qualified (see 2 CFR 200.205)

Competitive Grants: Review & Selection Process

1. The EPA evaluation team, which will include EPA Headquarters and Regional staff, will review each eligible application.
2. The EPA evaluation team will score and rank the proposals using the evaluation criteria outlined in the request for applications (RFA).
3. The EPA evaluation team will provide preliminary funding recommendations to the EPA Selection Official based on the proposal scores.
4. The EPA Selection Official will make final funding decisions based on ranking, preliminary recommendations of the evaluation team, and other potential factors.

American Rescue Plan Competition

- Target Dates

- Fall 2021 - Post RFA
- Late December 2021 - Close Announcement
- Summer 2022 – Award Grants

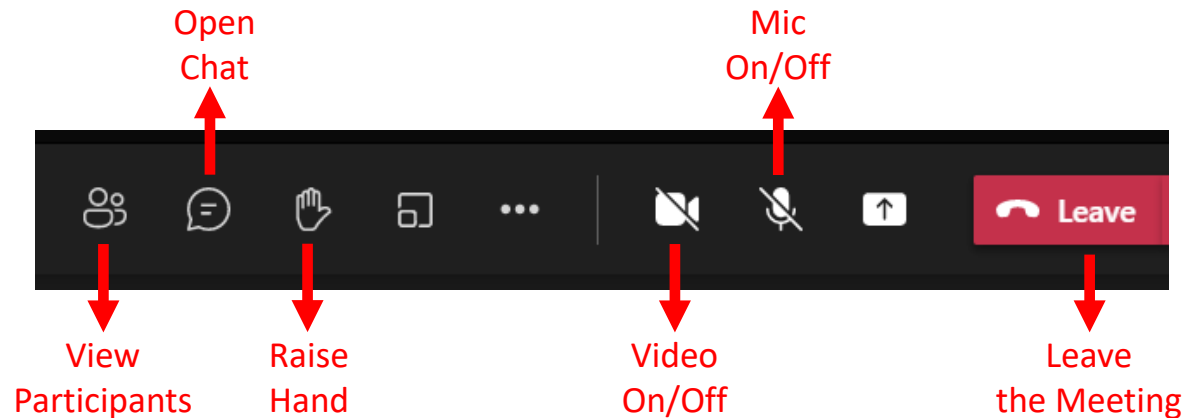
[Air Grants and Funding | US EPA](#) and

<https://www.epa.gov/amtic/american-rescue-plan>

Introduction to EPA Grants: Questions & Answers

Instructions:

- Please raise your hand or enter your question into the chat.
- Keep your microphone on mute when not speaking.
- You may turn on your camera or leave it off.



Reminders:

- Questions should be about the general EPA grants process and not the specific technical requirements of the upcoming ARP competitive grant.
- Later this fall, EPA anticipates holding informational webinars on the ARP competitive grant once the RFA is posted.
- EPA will post a recording of this webinar and the slides at <https://www.epa.gov/amtic/american-rescue-plan>. We will email a link to all registered attendees after we update the website.