



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Pacific Southwest / Region 9

Water Pollution Control Program Grants

Water Division
Tribal Water Section • October 2023

75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
866-EPA-WEST • www.epa.gov/region9

Purpose

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 – Water Pollution Control Program assists federally-recognized Indian tribes with achieving environmental results by developing institutional capacity for administering water quality programs to protect, improve and enhance natural resources.

Funding Availability

Approximately \$9 million is anticipated to be allocated for CWA Section 106 tribal programs in EPA's Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9). This will allow EPA to award grants between \$40,000 and \$200,000. First-time eligible applicants may receive grants for \$40,000.

Starting on April 5, 2022, the Section 106 Program received a Class Exception that waives the tribal program match requirement for new grants and supplemental awards made thereafter.



Water quality sampling at the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians Reservation

Examples of Eligible Activities

- Hiring qualified staff to identify and prioritize water quality issues
- Leasing/renting office space and purchasing water quality equipment and supplies
- Developing a monitoring strategy and a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the water quality monitoring program
- Performing water quality monitoring and assessments and associated data management
- Conducting studies related to water pollution control
- Implementing and enforcing pollution control measures
- Developing and implementing groundwater programs
- Developing a Water Quality Assessment Report (WQAR)
- Travel and training
- Developing a Financial Assistance Eligibility (FAE) application for CWA Section 319
- Developing a Nonpoint Assessment Report and Management Program Plan

Eligibility Requirements

Federally-recognized Indian tribes with EPA-approved Financial Assistance Eligibility (FAE).

New applicants seeking FAE must meet these requirements:

1. Federal recognition
2. Substantial governmental duties and powers
3. Legal authority and jurisdiction over tribal lands or reservation
4. Capability to carry out functions to be exercised in the manner consistent with the terms and purposes of the CWA and all applicable regulations

For more information, please refer to EPA Region 9's FAE Eligibility Handbook for Indian Tribes:

www.epa.gov/tribal/r9tribalcwa

Due date for new FAE applications is **October 31, 2023**.

FY 2024 Due Date for Draft Funding Requests (Anticipated): February 1, 2024

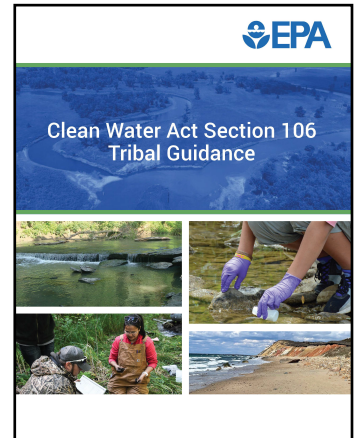
All applicants should submit their CWA 106 funding request including a draft workplan and budget breakdown for their FY 2024 CWA 106 program to their assigned CWA Grants Project Officer via e-mail. If your CWA funding is included in a multi-media Performance Partnership Grant, please contact your CWA Project Officer for additional proposal deadline guidance.

More information coming soon in the *EPA Region 9 FY 2024 Funding Opportunity for Tribal Water Pollution Control Program Grants* solicitation notice (anticipated to be posted December 2023).

Guidance

The final guidance on awards of grants to Indian tribes under Section 106 of the CWA provides tribes with information on how to design and implement effective, adaptive and successful water quality programs. The guidance also provides EPA with a framework of procedures and guidelines for awarding and administering these grants. The guidance provides tribes the information they need to make effective decisions about their water quality programs.

An updated Clean Water Act Section 106 Tribal Guidance was published in January 2023 and supersedes the prior 2007 guidance document. This update was the result from a multi-year collaborative revision effort by a work group made up of EPA staff and Tribal water quality program volunteers.



Download Guidance: [epa.gov/water-pollution-control-section-106-grants/clean-water-act-section-106-tribal-guidance](https://www.epa.gov/water-pollution-control-section-106-grants/clean-water-act-section-106-tribal-guidance)



Gila River Indian Community

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