Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Improving Water Infrastructure for Communities

July 13, 2022
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Adjust audio by clicking on small arrow next to audio settings
Webinar Speakers

• Karen Dettmer, Office of Water, Managing Director of Infrastructure
• Jonathan Nelson, Office of Water, Senior Advisor
• Nick Chamberlain, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Branch
• Kelly Tucker, Clean Water State Revolving Fund Branch
• Michelle Madeley, Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Finance Center
What We Will Cover

• What is the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program?

• How can the BIL and SRF program help underserved communities address water infrastructure needs?

• Opportunities to learn more
Poll Questions

- Where are you joining us from? *(See Regional map)*
- What category of participant describes you?
- Describe your level of understanding of the State Revolving Fund program before today.
What is the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)?

• $50 billion appropriation to EPA for water – single largest federal investment in water infrastructure ever

• Large amount of funding will be grants/forgivable loans for “disadvantaged communities” – which can help communities better afford necessary infrastructure upgrades

• Five-year appropriation timeline

• EPA implementation goals include:
  • Targeting resources to disadvantaged and underserved communities
  • Making rapid progress on lead service line replacement and lead-free water for all
  • Tackling forever chemicals
  • Supporting resilience (including climate resilience) & One Water Innovation
  • Creating good jobs
### Bipartisan Infrastructure Law SRF Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIL SRF Funding Program</th>
<th>New BIL SRF Funding Over Next 5 Years</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clean Water SRF General</td>
<td>$11,713,000,000 (49% available as grants or forgivable loans for disadvantaged communities)</td>
<td>Wastewater and stormwater projects</td>
</tr>
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<td>Drinking Water SRF General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean Water Emerging Contaminants</td>
<td>$1,000,000,000 (100% grants or forgivable loans)</td>
<td>PFAS and other “emerging” contaminants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking Water Emerging Contaminants</td>
<td>$4,000,000,000 (100% grant or forgivable loans, at least 25% for disadvantaged communities or systems serving &lt;25,000 in population)</td>
<td>PFAS and other “emerging” contaminants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Service Lines</td>
<td>$15,000,000,000 (49% available as grants or forgivable loans for disadvantaged communities)</td>
<td>Lead service line identification and replacement</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How can the BIL help communities address water challenges?

Non-exhaustive list of project examples include:

- Lead service line identification and replacement
- Drinking water treatment plant and pipe upgrades or building new drinking water infrastructure
- Wastewater treatment plant or pipe upgrades or building new infrastructure
- Connecting households or small drinking water/wastewater systems to larger systems
- Stormwater and water conservation projects
- Addressing PFAS contamination challenges
State Revolving Funds: Overview

Why is it important to talk about the State Revolving Funds (SRFs)?

- Congress allocated $43 billion of BIL water funds to SRF program
- SRFs are an important pathway for communities to access BIL funding

What are the SRFs?

- Mission: federal-state partnership to reduce costs of essential public health and environmental infrastructure
- Every state has a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
- CWSRF: provides funding and financing for wastewater and storm water infrastructure
- DWSRF: provides funding and financing to public water systems for drinking water infrastructure
State Revolving Funds: Overview

Who can receive funding?

**CWSRF:**
- CWSRF-eligible entities are dependent upon project type:
  - Municipalities, intermunicipal, interstate, or State agencies.
  - Nonprofit entities*
  - Private, for-profit entities*
  - Watershed groups*
  - Community groups*
  - Homeowners Associations*
  - Individuals*
  - And more…

**DWSRF:**
- Public or private* community water systems
  - A system serving at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents, or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents
- Nonprofit non-community water systems
  - Including schools, publicly-owned campgrounds, parks, churches

*Some states do not fund private systems/private entities.
State Revolving Funds: Overview

CWSRF-eligible project categories

- Centralized Wastewater Treatment
- Energy Conservation
- Water Conservation
- Stormwater
- Agricultural Best Management Practices
- Groundwater
- Resource Extraction
- Planning/Assessments and Monitoring
- Landfills
- Habitat Restoration
- Desalination
- Decentralized Wastewater Treatment
- Surface Water
- Contaminated Sites

Operations and maintenance expenses are not eligible.

A full list of CWSRF eligibilities, including examples of eligible projects, can be found in the “Overview of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities,” [https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/overview-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-eligibilities](https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/overview-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-eligibilities)
DWSRF-eligible project categories

- Treatment
- Transmission & Distribution
- Storage
- Source
- Consolidation
- Creation of New Systems
- Planning & Design

Operations and maintenance expenses are not eligible.

Access our Eligibility Handbook, which includes example projects:
https://www.epa.gov/dwsrf/drinking-water-state-revolving-fund-eligibility-handbook
State Revolving Funds: Overview

How do the SRFs work?

• **EPA**: provides overall guidance *(e.g., EPA March 2022 BIL SRF Memorandum)*, program oversight

• **States**: implement SRF program, hold public review processes, set definition of "disadvantaged community", accept water utility applications, score and rank projects, select projects for funding, oversee project construction

• **Local Utilities**: submit funding applications to state SRF programs

• **Communities**: participate in states’ SRF public review process, engage with your local water utility
General SRF Application Process

States have developed processes for potential borrowers/projects to apply for SRF funding - please consult your state program to learn more.
State Revolving Funds: Overview

What are other key features of the SRF program?

- **State Intended Use Plan (IUP)**
  - Every state develops an annual Intended Use Plan (IUP)
  - The IUP lays out the state’s SRF plan for the year (including scoring, priorities, updates to disadvantaged community definitions, etc)
  - States are required to provide IUP public comment opportunities

- **State Definitions: "Disadvantaged Community" and "Affordability Criteria"**
  - Each state sets their own definition of “disadvantaged community” (Drinking Water SRF) and "affordability criteria" (Clean Water SRF)
  - These definitions are important because they will determine eligibility for grant/forgivable loan funding
  - In March 2022 and June 2022, EPA released guidance on how to strengthen these definitions
MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

FROM: Radhika Fox
Assistant Administrator

TO: EPA Regional Water Division Directors
State SRF Program Managers

Overview
President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law on November 15, 2021. The law’s investment in the water sector is nothing short of transformational. It includes $50 billion to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to strengthen the nation’s drinking water and wastewater systems—the single largest investment in clean water that the federal government has ever made.

EPA is committed to a productive partnership with states, tribes, and territories to maximize the impact of these funds in addressing urgent water challenges facing communities. The majority of water infrastructure dollars will flow through the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds...
Where are we now with BIL SRF implementation?

• BIL signed into law: November 2021
• EPA BIL SRF implementation memorandum released: March 2022
• EPA releases $100 million TA provider funding opportunity through the Environmental Finance Center program: (closed July 1)
• States submit their first request for SRF BIL funding: Spring-Fall 2022
• EPA begins rolling out new BIL SRF-focused TA: beginning late Summer 2022
Technical assistance to help communities access BIL SRF funding

• **Need:** many communities need support to access SRF funding

• **Goal:** foster collaboration with states, territories, and tribes to expand availability of technical assistance (TA) to help underserved communities access SRF funding

• **Focuses:**
  - Underserved and disadvantaged communities in rural, urban, and suburban, and tribal areas
  - Community-centered, locally driven solutions
  - Partnership with states, tribes, territories, local governments, and community groups
TA Needs EPA Will Work To Address (in partnership with states)

**Technical expertise and community engagement expertise**

### Planning and Assessment
- Community Engagement
- Plan Development and Coordination
- Studies and Assessments
- Asset Management

### Project Development
- Preliminary Engineering Reports
- Lead Service Line Inventories
- Project Design
- Environmental Reviews

### Partnerships and Engagement
- Ongoing Engagement and Outreach
- Decision-maker and Board Education
- Water Systems Partnerships
- Capacity Building and Training

### Funding and Financing
- Rates and Revenue Analyses
- Financial Planning
- Identify Funding Options
- Application Support

### Program Management Support
- Bid Support
- Change Order Review
- Project Inspection
- Domestic Preference and Davis Bacon Assistance
Available Resources on EPA website

• Find your state’s SRF contact information and participate in your state’s SRF IUP process.
• Learn about how much BIL water funding your state will receive.
• Learn more about how the SRF program works.
• Sign up for more information about future EPA TA announcements.

[link]

Sign up to receive news and information related to technical assistance

epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance
### State DWSRF Website and Contact(s)

DWSRF assistance is provided directly from state agencies. Contact your DWSRF program in your state for information on how to apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CONTACT(s)</th>
<th>PHONE NUMBER(s)</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>WEBSITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AL</td>
<td>Julietta Ward</td>
<td>(334) 271-1805</td>
<td><a href="mailto:julietta.ward@adeq.alabama.gov">julietta.ward@adeq.alabama.gov</a></td>
<td>State of AL Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AK</td>
<td>Carrie Bohan</td>
<td>(907) 465-5143</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carrie.bohan@alaska.gov">carrie.bohan@alaska.gov</a></td>
<td>State of AK Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Debra Dickson</td>
<td>(479) 682-0646</td>
<td><a href="mailto:debra.dickson@arkansas.gov">debra.dickson@arkansas.gov</a></td>
<td>State of AR Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>Daniel A. Dolston, CFA</td>
<td>(602) 364-3114</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ddolston@azwrf.com">ddolston@azwrf.com</a></td>
<td>State of AZ Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>Christopher Stevens</td>
<td>(661) 341-5694</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Christopher.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov">Christopher.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov</a></td>
<td>State of CA Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>Michael S. Beck</td>
<td>(303) 692-3374</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.s.beck@state.co.gov">michael.s.beck@state.co.gov</a></td>
<td>State of CO Website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### State CWSRF Program Contacts

CWSRF assistance is provided directly from state agencies. Contact your CWSRF program in your state for information on how to apply.

List of CWSRF State Contacts: Provides the contact person’s name, agency, telephone number, fax number, and email address.

The following links exit the site:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming
This interactive tool facilitates exploration of funding EPA has announced that states, Tribes, and territories will receive for 2022 through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Read the news release announcing the 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law SRF funding. The tool also includes estimated job creation from these investments.

A note about tribal funding: EPA anticipates distributing $154 million to tribes—including Alaska Native Villages—for 2022. This is the first of 5 years of funding to the SRFs through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. EPA is working with the Indian Health Service and has begun consultation with tribes on the allocation of this funding.

Select a location below to explore 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs).
Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

The Water Finance Center provides financing information to help local decision makers make informed decisions for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to protect human health and the environment.

Water Finance Clearinghouse

Effective Financing

Upcoming Public Webinar

EFAB Pollution Prevention Finance Forum
- June 22, 2022
- View webinar details and register
SRF 101

The SRF 101 learning module is for potential State Revolving Fund (SRF) borrowers interested in learning about the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF Loan programs.
Audience Engagement

What materials and future webinar topics are you most interested in?
Poll Everywhere Participation: Participate via Web Browser (Smartphone, Laptop, Tablet)

**Step 1:** Go to “PollEv.com/rosspoll”

**Step 2:** Enter one of the following designations as your “screen name”
- Federal
- Tribe
- Industry
- NGO
- Academia
- Other
- State
- Utility
- Association
- EPA
- TA Provider
- NGO
- EPA
- Academia
- TA Provider

**Step 3:** Enter your response to the question. Refresh the webpage to see new questions.
Connect With Us

Visit https://www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance

Use the Q&A box to provide your name, organization, email address, and state if you:

• Represent a water utility and want to stay connected
• Are a member of the public, a community-based organization, or local government representing a disadvantaged community, and would like to be part of a future webinar focused on getting disadvantaged communities into consideration for these resources
Closing Takeaways

• Utilities should start talking to their state SRF programs now
  • State SRF contact information available on EPA website
• Members of the public can participate in SRF public processes
  • Links to state SRF programs can be found on EPA’s website
  • EPA offers free SRF informational resources online
  • EPA will hold future informational webinars and release other resources
• EPA and states are ramping up technical assistance to help communities access BIL SRF funding
  • Sign up for updates on EPA website