

AGENCY: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Office Of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR)

TITLE: Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS)
Cooperative Agreement Program

ACTION: Request for Applications (RFA) Amendment

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NO.: EPA-R-OEJECCR-OCS-23-01

ASSISTANCE LISTING NO: 66.306

REVISION DATE: February 21, 2023

SUMMARY: This notice is issued to amend the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement program's 2023 Request for Applications (RFA). This amendment includes the following changes:

- 1) **Closing date extended to April 14, 2023.** The deadline for submitting applications has been extended to 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on April 14, 2023. (See pages 1, 22, and 41).
- 2) **Updates to Evaluation Criteria 4.c.** The title to Evaluation Criteria 4.c has been updated to read as follows, "*Expenditure of Awarded Grant Funds, and plan for compliance with EPA's [Pre-award Compliance Review for Nonprofit Organizations](#).*" The point value for Evaluation Criteria 4.c has been increased from 2 points to 4 points. Applicants are encouraged to detail their approach, procedures, and controls for ensuring that awarded grant funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner, as well as describe their **plan** for establishing the necessary controls before the time of award if they do not currently have adequate controls and systems in place to comply with EPA's [Pre-award Compliance Review for Nonprofit Organizations](#). (See pages 29 and 39-40).
- 3) **Updates to Evaluation Criteria I.e. (Project Linkages) and II.b (Milestone Schedule).** The 3 points originally under Project Linkages I.e.2, "*Relates to the qualified environmental issue(s) identified in your Project Summary Page*" have been moved to Criteria II.b (+1 point) and Criteria 4.c (+2 points). (See pages 26, 29, 36, and 38-40).
- 4) **Smaller scale land purchases and/or acquisitions.** Clarifying language has been added detailing that smaller scale land purchases and/or acquisitions are an eligible project activity under this RFA. **NOTE:** Only land purchases and/or acquisitions which represent less than half of the requested project funds under an application are allowable. (See page 9).
- 5) **New Project Period Start Date.** Applicants should now plan for an estimated November 1, 2023, project period start date. Awards resulting from this solicitation will now have an estimated project period from November 2023 to October 2026. (See pages 16, 29, and 40).
- 6) **Adjustment in Section V.C (Anticipated Announcements and Award Dates).** The timeframe for final selections, awards, and the national announcement has been moved back by approximately a month during fall 2023. (See pages 41-42).

This amendment supersedes all previous versions. The amended RFA is a separate document.