



# Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) - Air Monitoring and Air Sensors Direct Awards

State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Air Agency (SLT) Webinar

February 28, 2024

# IRA Air Monitoring Provisions

## 60105(a). Fenceline Air Monitoring and Screening Air Monitoring

- For grants and other activities authorized under subsections (a) through (c) of section 103 and section 105 of the Clean Air Act to deploy, integrate, support, and maintain fenceline air monitoring, screening air monitoring, national air toxics trends stations, and other air toxics and community monitoring.

## 60105(b). Multipollutant Monitoring Stations

- For grants and other activities authorized under subsections (a) through (c) of section 103 and section 105 of the Clean Air Act to (A) to expand the national ambient air quality monitoring network with new multipollutant monitoring stations; and (B) to replace, repair, operate, and maintain existing monitors.

## 60105(c). Air Quality Sensors in Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities

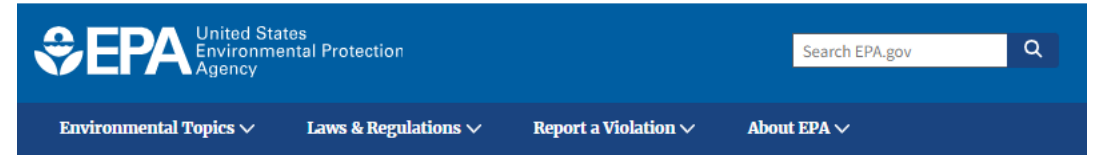
- For grants and other activities authorized under subsections (a) through (c) of section 103 and section 105 of the Clean Air Act to deploy, integrate, and operate air quality sensors in low-income and disadvantaged communities.

# Grant Guidance Documents

- On February 16, 2024, EPA [announced](#) plans to make direct, non-competitive grant awards to state, local, Tribal, and territorial air agencies using **a portion** of funds available under IRA sections 60105(a-c).
- EPA released two grant guidance documents:
  1. **Fenceline/Multipollutant grant guidance** for activities that will result in either establishing new monitoring activities or in maintaining, operating, or upgrading existing monitoring stations [60105(a)-(b)].
  2. **Air Sensors grant guidance** for activities that will result in more air quality sensor data in and around low-income and disadvantaged communities [60105(c)].

# Navigating to the IRA Air Monitoring and Air Quality Sensors Grants Webpage

- Open Announcements are listed on the Air Grants & Funding web page
- [Link: Air Grants and Funding | US EPA](#)



## Air Grants and Funding

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) announces grant and rebate opportunities for projects and programs relating to air quality, transportation, climate change, indoor air and other related topics.

EPA provides two types of **grants**:

- **Competitive:** EPA generally invites all eligible applicants to submit applications. EPA reviews and evaluates applications against criteria disclosed in the competitive announcement and makes selections.
- **Non-competitive:** Typically, these grants are made to governmental units based on statutory, regulatory, or published program guidance allocation funding formulas for continuing environmental program support.

### Review Closed Announcements

To view prior grant opportunities that are no longer active, visit the [Closed Announcements](#) page.

## Open Announcements

Click on the links below for details on each Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) listed for each appropriation.

### Inflation Reduction Act Appropriation

In August 2022, Congress passed the [Inflation Reduction Act](#) to tackle the climate crisis and advance environmental justice. [The Inflation Reduction Act provided the EPA \\$41.5 billion to support new and existing programs.](#) EPA's Office of Air and Radiation has been allocated over \$11 billion of these funds to advance the goal of securing clean and healthy air, and a safe climate, for all Americans. EPA will update this page as grant programs are developed under this appropriation.

**Non-competitive grants:**

- [Air Monitoring and Air Quality Sensors Grants](#)
  - **Assistance Listing Number:** 66.034
  - **Eligible Entities:** Air pollution control agencies currently involved in air monitoring activities that regularly receive CAA section 103 or 105 grants either annually or every few years.
  - **Deadline to Apply:** April 8, 2024

# Overview

- Air Monitoring and Air Quality Sensors Grants under the Inflation Reduction Act
  - EPA is announcing the availability of approximately **\$81M in funding under IRA** section 60105(a)&(b)
  - EPA is announcing the availability of approximately **\$2M in funding under IRA** section 60105(c)
- These are **non-competitive** grants

## Air Monitoring and Air Quality Sensors Grants under the Inflation Reduction Act

### Overview

EPA is announcing the availability of approximately \$81 million in non-competitive, direct award funding from the [Inflation Reduction Act](#) of 2022 (IRA) for eligible state, local, Tribal and territorial air agencies to establish new ambient air monitoring sites, and maintain, operate, or upgrade existing ambient air monitoring networks. These funds provide critical resources to ensure the sustainability of national air quality monitoring networks as a public asset. The networks provide data to inform decision making that protects human health and the environment. Approximately \$2 million of funding is also available to support the deployment and operation of air quality sensors in low-income and disadvantaged communities across the United States.

For complete details on these grants, please review the two Grants Guidance Documents ( [IRA 60105 \(a\)/\(b\) Grant Program Guidance \(pdf\)](#) (449 KB) and [IRA 60105 \(c\) Grant Program Guidance \(pdf\)](#) (437.2 KB) ).

### Related Information

[Review Open Air Grants and Funding Opportunities](#)

# Overview

- These IRA direct awards will be **awarded under CAA 103**, with no cost share required.
- **Eligible entities** include pollution control agencies currently involved in air monitoring activities and that have a history of receiving CAA Section 103 or 105 grants either annually or every few years.
- These are **one-time funds** and air agencies should have plans to sustain the work after the term of these grants.
- The maximum **period of performance** for these grants is up to five years. The period of performance should be based on the time required to accomplish the workplan components.

# Eligible Activities under 60105(a) and (b)

Examples include but are not limited to:

- Establishing and operating new NATTS sites
- Supporting, maintaining, and upgrading existing NATTS sites or NATTS laboratories
- Establishing and operating new multipollutant sites
- Replacing, repairing, operating, and maintaining existing air toxics and multipollutant monitoring operations
- Fenceline, screening, and/or community air monitoring projects
- Air monitoring related training courses or activities
- Air monitoring related staffing needs that result from work identified in the workplan
- Ambient air monitoring asset management support
- Maintaining or enhancing data collection-related network security
- Quality assurance and/or quality control documentation and audit activities



# Additional Information for 60105(a)&(b)

- It is expected that the **minimum award** under this program will be approximately \$100,000.
  - The size of awards will be related to the level of ongoing ambient air monitoring work, the number of new sites requested, number of NATTS sites and laboratories, and the air monitoring needs of the agencies.
- The **EPA Regional Offices have discretion regarding final grant distributions** and may elect to include proposed grant maximums in their “please apply” letters to air agencies.
- This funding opportunity is covered by the **Justice40 initiative**. Workplans should address how the outcomes of the workplan support Justice40 goals, including information about new and existing sites in disadvantaged communities, as shown using the **EPA’s IRA Disadvantaged Communities Map**.



# Eligible Activities under 60105(c)

- IRA section 60105(c) specifies that these grants are for the deployment, integration, and operation of air sensors in low-income and disadvantaged communities and **all grants must fund activities resulting in the deployment of air sensors in low-income and disadvantaged communities.**
  - EPA will not fund air sensors projects focused on the research, development, demonstration, or evaluation of air sensors
- Examples include but are not limited to:
  - Air quality sensors directly deployed by air agencies in/near low-income and disadvantaged communities
  - Developing and/or operating sensor loan programs to deploy sensors in low-income and disadvantaged communities
  - Deploying and/or operating air quality sensors in low-income and disadvantaged communities via partnerships with community groups
  - Quality assurance and/or quality control documentation and activities related to the deployed air sensors
  - Air quality sensor related data plans and licenses, including sensing as a service
  - Developing training and outreach materials for air quality sensors and associated data

# Additional Information for 60105(c)

- It is expected that the **minimum award** under this provision will be \$20,000, but the EPA Regions have discretion regarding final grant distributions.
- The **EPA Regional Offices have discretion regarding final grant distributions** and may elect to include proposed grant maximums in their “please apply” letters to air agencies.
- This funding opportunity is covered by the **Justice40 initiative**. Workplans should address how the overall outcomes of the workplan support Justice 40 goals and the IRA provision.

# Workplan Contents: Outputs & Outcomes

- Outputs
  - The measurable “widgets” of your project
  - For example, number of new areas measuring air pollution, number of new equipment deployed at existing air monitoring sites, and the number of existing air monitoring sites and equipment supported and upgraded
- Outcomes
  - The results, effect, or consequences from carrying out the activities in your workplan
  - For example, increased disadvantaged communities monitored for air quality, problem identification, and increased public awareness of ambient air quality
- Example outputs and outcomes are listed in the grant guidance documents

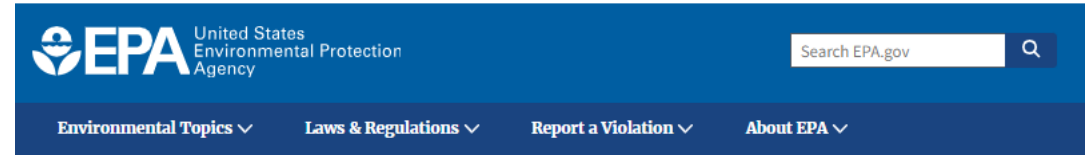
# IRA Air Monitoring Direct Awards: General Timeline

Target Deadline	Milestone
<b>February 16, 2024</b>	EPA Released Grants Guidance for SLT Air Agencies
<b>Now</b>	SLT Air Agency Works with EPA Regional Office regarding “Please Apply” Letters
<b>April 8, 2024* (but ASAP)</b>	SLT Grant Applications Due
<b>Spring/Summer 2024</b>	SLT Air Agencies and EPA Regional Offices Work Together to Finalize Grant Awards

\*Air agencies should consult their EPA Regional Offices about specific deadlines.

# How to Apply

- EPA regional offices will contact eligible entities about how to apply via Grants.gov.



## Air Monitoring and Air Quality Sensors Grants under the Inflation Reduction Act

### Overview

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### Related Information

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### How to Apply

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# How to Apply

1. Make sure your organization is registered with Grants.gov
  - Applications must be submitted electronically via [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
2. Access the link provided by Regional Point of Contact for use on Grants.gov
  - Regional POCs are found at the end of the grant guidance document
3. Apply through Grants.gov
  - All applications must be submitted through Grants.gov using the “Workspace” feature. This is required. Information can be found at the Grants.gov Workspace Overview Page.

# How to Apply

## 4. Write your Project Narrative

- Includes the optional cover page
- Must substantially comply with the specific instructions, format, and content as described in the grant guidance documents
- Save as a Word or a PDF document

## 5. Complete the Mandatory Forms

- See page 9 of the grant guidance document for (a)&(b) and page 8 for (c)

## 6. Use the “Other Attachments” form to submit any additional documents



# How to Apply

7. Grants.gov: Fill out the required grant application forms and upload all required and optional attachments
  - Download PDFs of the forms, fill them out offline, then upload back to grants.gov; or
  - Complete the forms online as webforms
  
8. Check Application on Grants.gov
  - The “Check Application” button runs a validation process to ensure all the forms are complete. If the validation fails, a list of errors will be displayed.
  - Once all the forms are in “passed” status, the “Sign and Submit” button will activate.

# EPA Regional Office Contact List

EPA Region	Point(s) of Contact	Email Contact
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