

**Exchange Network Grant Opportunity**  
**UST Finder Application (Version 2) to Support National and State**  
**Underground Storage Tank Programs**

**What is EPA's Exchange Network Grant Program?**

EPA's [Exchange Network Grant Program](#) solicits project applications annually to support the Environmental Information Exchange Network (EN) to:

- Facilitate sharing of environmental data, especially through shared and reusable services.
- Reduce burden and avoid costs for co-regulators and the regulated community.
- Streamline data collection and exchanges to improve its timeliness for decision making.
- Increase the quality and access to environmental data through discovery, publishing, outbound and analytical services so it is more useful to environmental managers.
- Increase data and IT management capabilities needed to fully participate in the EN.

**Is the FY 2025 application period for Exchange Network Grants open?**

Yes. The application period for FY 2025 Exchange Network Grants is now open with all applications due by 11:59 PM ET on Monday, March 24, 2025. See the [FY25 Exchange Network Solicitation Notice](#) for more information on the grant competition and a link to the full solicitation notice on grants.gov.

**How much money is available?**

It is anticipated that up to 35 award(s) will be made under this announcement. Awards are expected to be in the \$200,000 to \$600,000 range.

**Are UST data projects eligible?**

Yes. In fact, state database work to improve systems and data exchange with EPA's UST Finder 2.0 is specifically called out as a Project Opportunity in the grant solicitation document. The UST Finder 2.0 Project Opportunity can be found on page 39 of Appendix B in the [full solicitation notice](#). See the 'Related Documents' section on grants.gov to download the file.

The UST Finder 2.0 Project Opportunity includes information on potential project activities, including:

1. Assembling data into standardized underground storage tanks schema and enhancing existing state data systems
2. Cloud-based exchange service

**Have any tanks programs worked with an EN grant before?**

Yes. In a FY 2021 EN grant, Nebraska and North Carolina were able to improve their data services. Further efforts are needed to enhance a cloud-based approach to the data exchange. Interested applicants can consider partnering with other states to submit joint applications. For reference, see the FY 2021 EN Grant Award description below:

**Project Title:** Streamlining and Delivering Current Data to Inform Timely Decisions in Managing Underground Storage Tanks

The Nebraska State Fire Marshal Agency and North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality propose to modernize and streamline the exchange of data between States and the USEPA using current web-based technologies to maintain the latest available data sets on underground storage tanks. Benefits will include enabling States, the USEPA and Emergency Response personnel to have the most up-to-date data in maintaining critical infrastructure, making time-critical decisions in protecting water quality and improving emergency response capabilities.

**Is there a common data format or template for UST Finder 2.0?**

Yes. See [Templates for Exchange Network Grant Applications](#) for the USTs and UST release templates in developing UST Finder 2.0.

**Who do I reach out to if I have questions or need further assistance?**

For general questions about the grant application process, please contact [ENGrantProgram@epa.gov](mailto:ENGrantProgram@epa.gov).

For questions on Nebraska's experience, please contact David Levering ([david.levering@nebraska.gov](mailto:david.levering@nebraska.gov)).

For UST Finder questions, please contact Fran Kremer ([kremer.fran@epa.gov](mailto:kremer.fran@epa.gov)), Will Anderson ([anderson.will@epa.gov](mailto:anderson.will@epa.gov)), or Sara Miller ([miller.sara@epa.gov](mailto:miller.sara@epa.gov)).