

Version History

Below documents substantive content updates to this Borrower Guide since its initial release.

May 2025:

- Converted Borrower Guide to web-format
- *WIFIA Specifications Package and Bid Contract Language:*
 - Revised Davis Bacon contract language based on 2023 regulations.
 - Added an introductory note on Equal Employment Opportunity contract language.
 - Rearrangement of contract language sections.
- *Environmental Review and the NEPA:*
 - Merged and reconciled environmental review information previously in Borrower Guide, Program Handbook, and WIFIA Compliance web page
 - Added “Best Practices for WIFIA Application” section.
 - Updated resources, including revised Environmental Questionnaire template forms and examples
- *Environmental Cross-cutting Authorities:*
 - New section with updated list of cross-cutting authorities
 - Added information on two cross-cutting authorities – NHPA and ESA – and their consultation requirements.
- *American Iron and Steel:*
 - Added instructional content to support AIS (and BABA) waivers, including a implementation aid describing WIFIA’s AIS waiver process and new AIS waiver request form.
- *Build America Buy America Act*
 - Updated OMB and regulatory references.
 - Updated and added instructional content to support BABA implementation, including waiver process
- *Labor Laws and Standards:*
 - New information on August 2023 regulations updating implementation guidance.
- *Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Policies Act*
 - Updated information to guide land acquisition requirements.
- *Debarment and Suspension:*
 - Added instructional content for checking exclusions on sam.gov
- *Equal Employment Opportunity:*
 - New information on the latest EOs and its impact on EEO implementation.
- *Disadvantaged Business Enterprise:*
 - Removed requirement for WIFIA loans.
- *Guiding Principles for Compliance:*
 - Added roles and responsibilities summary in introductory paragraphs.
- *Collaborative Delivery Projects:*
 - New section added.
- *Overlapping Federal and State Laws and Regulations*
 - Added guidance regarding overlapping federal laws and regulations.

November 2022:

- Added Build America, Buy America Requirements section under *Latest Updates on Federal Requirements*.
- Added Suggested Contract Language for Build America, Buy America Requirements under *Appendix: WIFIA Specifications and Bid Contract Language*
- Clarifications to collaborative delivery projects and wage determinations under Davis Bacon Act based on additional guidance from Department of Labor under *Labor Laws and Standards*
- Additional clarifications to required contract language used for Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements in *Appendix: WIFIA Specifications and Bid Contract Language*
- Updated hyperlinks to outside sources.

October 2021:

- Added Table of Contents.
- Updated Environmental Authorities section, related to construction status of projects.
- Updated Economic and Miscellaneous Authorities section, related the Uniform Act and real property acquisition.
- Updated Labor Laws and Standards section, related to construction type generally used for water infrastructure projects.
- Updated hyperlinks to outside sources.

March 2021:

Corrected hyperlinks to outside sources.

December 2020:

Borrower Guide released.