# EPA Grants Webinar Series: Competition Process

Presented by:

**Elizabeth January** 

Grants Competition Advocate's Office Office of the Chief Grants Officer

# Housekeeping



### **Meeting Audio**

- ✓ Attendees must use **Device Audio** (computer, headset, tablet, or smart phone)
- ✓ Presenter Audio Only (like a TV broadcast)
- ✓ If you cannot hear, ensure your system/device audio is turned up and not muted and that you have not paused the broadcast

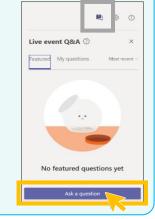
Computer audio is located at the bottom right of the Windows desktop.





### **Ask a Question**

- ✓ Ask a question under Live Event Q&A panel
- ✓ Click "Ask a question"



Q&A panel is located on the top right side of the Live Event window.

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# **EPA Grants Update Listserv**

### Sign up today to receive timely notifications about:

- New guidance and information posted on this website
- New trainings and webinars available to potential applicants and recipients
- Changes in grants management requirements
- Other pertinent general grants information

### Subscribe here.



EPA Trainings for Applicants and Recipients

# Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients

Required for new recipients prior to receiving grant funds (see RAIN-2024-G01)

- Module 1: Introduction
- Module 2: Demonstrating Financial Management System and Internal Controls Capability
- Module 3: Applying for a Grant
- Module 4: Accepting a Grant Award
- Module 5: Managing a Grant
- Module 6: Closing Out a Grant

Check it out: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-management-training-applicants-and-recipients">https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-management-training-applicants-and-recipients</a>

# **Budget Training**

Required for new recipients prior to receiving grant funds (see RAIN-2024-G01)

- Module 1: General Principles and Considerations
- Module 2: Direct Costs
- Module 3: Other Direct Cost
- Module 4: Indirect Costs

Check it out: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/grants/how-develop-budget">https://www.epa.gov/grants/how-develop-budget</a>

# **Competition Process**

The basics on competing for EPA assistance programs

December 2025

# **Competitive Process**

- 1. EPA prepares Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- 2. EPA posts NOFO on program office website and Grants.gov
- 3. EPA receives applications from applicants
- 4. EPA evaluates applications and makes selections
- 5. EPA issues awards

Note: Award Official will check SAM.gov prior to award to ensure applicant is qualified (see 2 CFR 200.206)

# Finding EPA Competitive Opportunities on Grants.gov

# Find current competitive opportunities

- Synopses includes important info: funding amounts, eligible entities, submission deadline, and more
- Searchable by Federal Assistance Listing (FAL) number (formerly known as CFDA), keyword, agency, type of entity, etc.

Sign up for automatic notifications of opportunities



Home Learn Grants v Search Grants Applicants v Grantors v System-To-System v Forms v Connect v Support v

### Informative status

**Reminder:** Federal financial assistal ward recipients are a crucial part of safeguarding Federal funds and maintaining a secure cyber environment. Check out atest blog post to learn more.

### Your Team. Your Workspace.

Applying for a funding opportunity is easier and more efficient when your team collaborates. Grants.gov Workspace makes it possible.

**Apply for a Grant Using Workspace** 



### SEARCH GRANTS

All Corporation for National and Community

https://grants.gov/search-grants

for Health

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA: Search Tips | Export Resu 0 Keyword(s): • SORT BY: | Open Date (Descending) DATE RANGE: All Available Funding Opp #: « Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 ... 83 Nex 1 - 25 OF 2065 MATCHING RESULTS: CFDA Number: Opportunity Title Open Date | Close D Funding Opportunity # Agency AMS-NOP-13-0061 Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost-Share Agricultural 08/01/2013 08/30/20 SEARCH Program FY 2013 Marketing Service SA-SYLEP-800-13-GR-51 Saudi Young Leaders Exchange Program 08/01/2013 08/30/20 U.S. Mission to OPPORTUNITY STATUS: Saudi Arabia Open (2065) Closed (1396) G13AS00105 Cooperative Ecoystem Studies Unit, Gulf Coast CESU 08/01/2013 08/12/20 Geological Survey Archived (19938) G13AS00109 Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Great Basin CESU Geological Survey 08/01/2013 08/12/20 Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Great Lakes Northern Forest G13AS00110 08/01/2013 08/12/20 Geological Survey ▼ FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE: CESU All Funding Instruments Assessment of natural resource conditions at Hopewell Furnace NHS, NPS-13-NERO-0107 National Park 08/01/2013 08/06/20 Cooperative Agreement (568) Gettysburg NMP, and Eisenhower NHS Service Grant (1630) 08/01/2013 09/07/20 PAR-13-300 NLM Express Research Grants in Biomedical Informatics (R01) National Institutes Other (43) of Health Procurement Contract (42) PAR-13-301 The Role of the Cytoskeleton in Cellular Aging (R21/R33) National Institutes 08/01/2013 09/07/20 of Health **▼ ELIGIBILITY:** Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Gulf Coast CESU 08/01/2013 08/12/20 G13AS00106 Geological Survey All Eligibilities PAR-13-295 08/01/2013 09/07/20 Biomarkers: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Therapeutics (R21) National Institutes City or township governments (1008) of Health County governments (1018) 08/01/2013 09/07/20 PAR-13-296 Biomarkers: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Therapeutics (R01) National Institutes For profit organizations other than small of Health businesses (952) 08/01/2013 09/07/20 PAR-13-299 Biomarkers: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Therapeutics (R03) National Institutes of Health ▼ CATEGORY: 08/01/2013 08/23/20 L13AS00170 BLM AK CESU - Scenario Planning for Energy and Resources Bureau of Land All Categories Development Management Agriculture (31) NOAA-NMFS-PRPO-2014-2003832 FY 2014 Species Recovery Grants to Tribes 08/01/2013 10/29/20 Department of Arts (see 'Cultural Affairs' in CFDA) (6) Commerce Business and Commerce (15) NOAA-NMFS-PRPO-2014-2003811 Species Recovery Grants to States (Section 6 Program) Department of 08/01/2013 10/29/20 Community Development (29) Commerce NNU127DA001N-PMDAP ROSES 2013: Planetary Mission Data Analysis Program NASA 08/01/2013 10/11/20 ▼ AGENCY: Headquarters All Agencies PA-FPH-14-022 FY14 Region 9 Nevada (not including Clark, Douglas or Washoe Office of the 08/01/2013 04/01/20 counties) Announcement of Anticipated Availability of Funds for Family Assistant Secretary All Agency for International Development (63)

Planning Services Grants

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Sign in

This site is a work in progress, with new features and updates based on your feedback.

Fill out a 1-minute survey and share your experience with Simpler and Classic Search.

### https://simpler.grants.gov/

## Search funding opportunities

Q Tip: Use a minus sign to exclude words or phrases, like "-research" Copy this search query C Search **=** Filters **Filters** Clear filters Must include all words (ex. transportation AND safety) Opportunity status May include any words (ex. transportation OR safety) Any opportunity status Forecasted X Open x Forecasted [664] Open [917] Closed [0] Archived [0] 1,581 Opportunities Export results **Funding instrument** Most relevant (Default) Sort by Eligibility Close date Status Title Agency Award min Award NASA Headquarters Agency ROSES 2025: A.7 Water Quality Dec 16. Posted date: Jul 11. Open Applications \$--2025 2025 Number: NNH25ZDA001N-WATERQ Category Expected awards: --Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Closing date range OJJDP FY25 Mentoring for Youth Affected Prevention Dec 16. \$1,980 by Opioid and Other Substance Use Open 2025 Posted date: Sep 15, Number: 0-0JJDP-2025-172446 Cost sharing 2025 Expected awards: 13

# FY26 Guidelines for Brownfield Assessment Grants (Assessment Coalition Grants)



#### Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

<u>Assistance Listings</u>: 66.818 -- Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

Last Updated: November 20, 2025

**Grants.gov** 

View version history on Grants.gov ☑

### **Description**

↓ Jump to all documents

The Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization is announcing the availability of \$58.7 million dollars to award approximately 39 cooperative agreements under the Brownfields Assessment Coalition grant program. Assessment Grants provide funding for developing inventories of brownfield sites, prioritizing sites, conducting community involvement activities, conducting planning, conducting site assessments, developing site-specific cleanup plans, and developing reuse plans related to brownfield sites. A portion of the Assessment Grant funding must be used to conduct site assessments. Assessment Coalition Grants are designed for one "lead" eligible entity to partner with two to four eligible entities that do not have the capacity to apply for and manage their own EPA cooperative agreement and otherwise would not have access to Brownfields Grant resources.

### **Eligibility**

#### Eligible applicants

#### Miscellaneous

Other

#### Additional information

See Section 2 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for eligibility information.

Closing: January 28, 2026

#### Application process

This site is a work in progress. Go to www.grants.gov to apply, track application status, and subscribe to updates.

View on Grants.gov



\$58,700,000

Program Funding

39

Expected awards

\$--

Award Minimum

\$1,500,000

Award Maximum

#### Funding opportunity number:

EPA-OLEM-OBLR-25-05

Cost sharing or matching requirement:

No

Funding instrument type:

### Funding opportunity number: Miscellaneous EPA-OLEM-OBLR-25-05 Other Cost sharing or matching requirement: Additional information No See Section 2 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for eligibility information. Funding instrument type: Cooperative agreement Grantor contact information Opportunity Category: Discretionary Description Opportunity Category Explanation: Elyse Salinas, 202-564-2858 See Section 1 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for Regional Contacts. Category of Funding Activity: Email Environment brownfields@epa.gov Category Explanation: brownfields@epa.gov **Documents** History Download all Version: File name Description Last updated EPA-OLEM-OBLR-25-05.pdf Full Announcement Nov 20, 2025 04:50 PM UTC Posted date:

## Link to additional information

Archive date:

November 20, 2025

February 27, 2026

## **EPA Program Office Websites**

 In addition to Grants.gov, some EPA programs have funding opportunity information (ex: Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia:

https://www.epa.gov/circulareconomy/solid-waste-infrastructure-recycling-grants-tribes-and-intertribal-consortia)

## SAM.gov Federal Assistance Listings (formerly CFDA):

- https://sam.gov/content/assistance-listings
- Read more about assistance programs
- Typical funding amounts, types of projects funded, eligible entities, and more





### The Official U.S. Government System for:

#### Contracting

Contract data including Opportunities, Awards and Subcontractor reports

#### **Wage Determinations**

#### Federal Hierarchy

Departments and Subtiers

#### Federal Assistance

Assistance Listings and Subaward Reports (was FSRS.gov)

#### **Entity Information**

Entities, Disaster Response Registry, Exclusions, and Responsibility / Qualification (was FAPIIS.gov)

#### **Entity Reporting**

SCR and Bio-Preferred Reporting

Are you searching for Federal Acquisition Supply Chain Security Act (FASCSA) orders?

View FASCSA Orders

Nov 25

# Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID

Register your entity or get a Unique Entity ID to get started doing business with the federal government.

**Get Started** 

Renew Entity

 $\bigcirc$ 

**Check Entity Status** 

### Already know what you want to find?

Federal Assistance

e.g. 1606N020Q02

Q

#### **Announcements**

#### New timeline for decommissioning of eSRS.gov

The decommissioning of eSRS.gov has been postponed to early 2026. This change was implemented to provide federal agencies and entities with adequate time to finalize their

How to get a Unique Entity ID

GSA Get a Unique Entity ID in SAM.gov



#### **Assistance Listing**

Overview

Authorizations

Financial Information

Criteria for Applying

Applying for Assistance

Compliance Requirements

Contact Information

History



ASSISTANCE LISTINGS

# Surveys, Studies, Investigations, Demonstrations, and Training Grants - Section 1442 of the Safe Drinking Water Act

Department/Ind. Agency
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

CFDA Number
66.424

Related Federal Assistance
66.510, 66.436, 66.716

View available opportunities on Grants.gov related to this Assistance Listing 

Assistance Listing

### Overview

### **Objectives**

To support developing, expanding, planning, implementing, and improving environmental training associated with source water and drinking water. To develop and expand capabilities of programs to carry out the purposes of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Funding Priorities - Fiscal Year 2021: Funding priorities include providing assistance for the following training activities: (1) training personnel who manage or operate public water systems; (2) training personnel for occupations involving the public health aspects of providing safe drinking water; (3) training to develop and expand the capabilities of states and municipalities to carry out the SDWA; and (4) expanding, planning, implementing, and improving training to enable small public water systems to meet the requirements of SDWA.

### **Examples of Funded Projects**

**Fiscal Year 2021:** Funding will continue to support: training states in effective implementation of SDWA requirements; training assistance to states in ground water protection and conservation; developing utility planning tools and training; capacity development support and training; training for source water protection through prevention; expanding, planning, implementing, and improving training to enable small public water systems to meet the requirements of SDWA.

### **Assistance Listing Description**

Funding supports training associated with source water and drinking water, and projects to develop and expand capabilities of programs to carry out the purposes of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Assistance is for expanding, planning, implementing, and improving training to enable small public water systems to meet the requirements of SDWA.

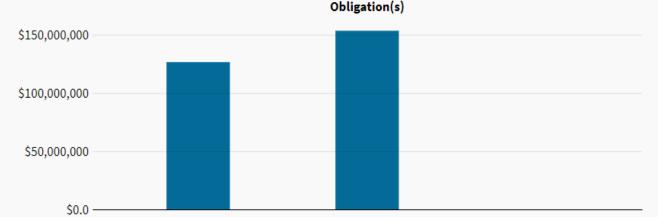
### **Authorizations**

National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102(2)(F)

Title Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442, as amended, Public Law 104-182

### **Financial Information**

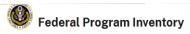
These funding amounts do not reflect the award amounts that are displayed on USASpending.gov



### Federal Program Inventory

In 2024, OMB launched the Federal Program Inventory (FPI) website.
The FPI takes a "deeper dive" into Federal financial assistance by
providing publicly available, agency-provided data pulled from SAM.gov
and USASpending.gov. <a href="https://fpi.omb.gov/">https://fpi.omb.gov/</a>





Program search

Explore programs by category

About the FPI Y

### Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

Home > Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

### **Program Information**

#### Popular name

**Brownfields MARC Grants** 

#### Agency

**Environmental Protection Agency** 

#### Program Number

66.818

#### Sub-agency

N/A



#### Categories & sub-categories

#### **Environmental Quality**

**Program details** 

- Air Pollution Control
- Pesticides Control
- Radiation Control
- · Research, Education, Training
- Solid Waste Management
- Water Pollution Control

#### **Program types**

- Project Grants
- · Project Grants

#### Eligible applicants

- · Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions
- City or Township Government
- · County Government
- Fodorally D-

#### Program objective

Brownfield sites are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The objectives of the Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup cooperative agreements (project grants) are to provide funding: (1) to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to brownfield sites; (2) to capitalize a revolving loan fund (RLF) which provide loans and subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites; (3) to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites that are owned by the grant recipient; and (4) to inventory, characterize, assess, plan or remediate one or more brownfield sites in an area proposed for Multipurpose cooperative agreements. Funding Priorities - Fiscal Year 2025 - Funding Priorities: Funding will support at least 130 Assessment cooperative agreements (estimated \$117 million) that recipients may use to inventory, assess, cleanup and plan reuse at brownfield sites, as authorized under CERCLA Section 104(k)(2). Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds will be used for approximately 18 Assessment cooperative agreements. IIJA funds will support at least 60 direct Cleanup cooperative agreements (estimated \$100 million) to enable eligible entities to clean up properties that the recipient owns, as authorized under CERCLA Section 104(k)(3). IIJA funds will support at least 15 competitive RLF cooperative agreements (estimated \$15 million) to capitalize a revolving loan fund which provides loans and subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites, as authorized under CERCLA Section 104(k)(3). In addition, approximately 25 RLF supplemental awards (estimated at \$40 million) will be made non-competitively to current RLF cooperative agreement recipients who meet supplemental funding criteria, in order to re-capitalize \*heir RLF for additional loans and subgrants. IIJA funds will be used for FY25 RLF supplemental funding awards. rent with the direction on cost sharing in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, cost sharing and matching

and RLF cooperative agreements. Recipients will be

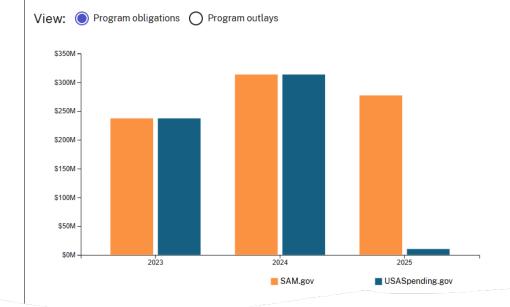
## Federal Program Inventory

EPA's financial assistance funding programs subject to BABA report.

### Program expenditures, by FY (2023 - 2025)

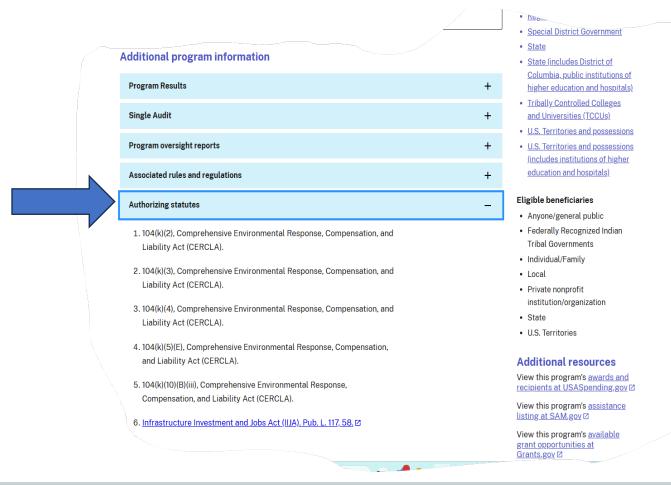
This chart shows obligations for the program by fiscal year. All data for this chart was provided by the administering agency and sourced from SAM.gov, USASpending.gov, and Treasury.gov.

For more information on each of these data sources, please see the About the data page.



- Intrastate
- Local (includes Statedesignated Indian Tribes, excludes institutions of higher education and hospitals
- Native American Organizations (includes Indian groups, cooperatives, corporations, partnerships, associations)
- Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS
   Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
- Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS
   Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
- Other public institution/organization
- Private nonprofit institution/organization (includes institutions of higher education and hospitals)
- Public nonprofit institution/organization (includes institutions of 'includes)

## Federal Program Inventory



# Before you Apply

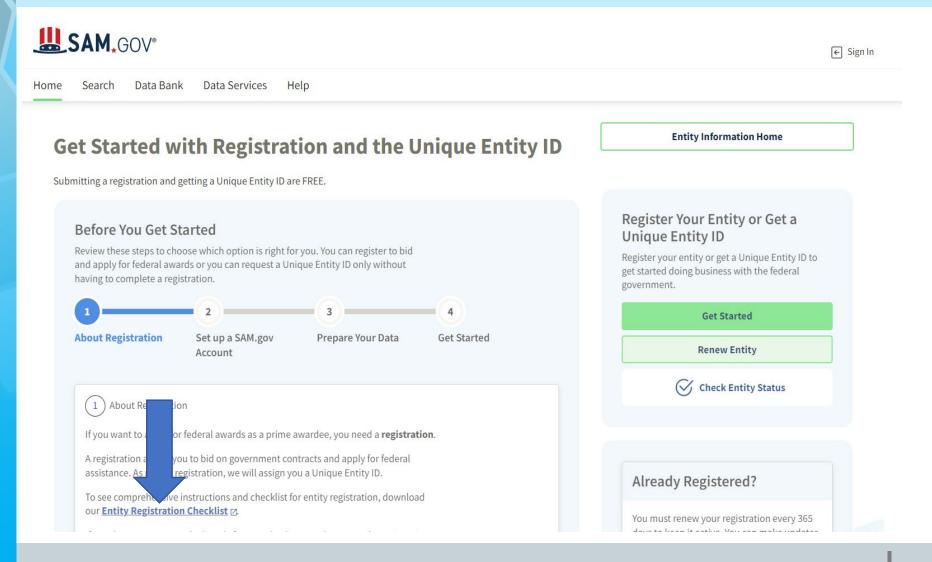
SAM.gov and Grants.gov Registration

# Before you Apply to an EPA Competitive Opportunity: SAM.gov Registration

# If you want to apply for an EPA Competitive Opportunity, you need an active SAM.gov registration.

- As part of registration, SAM.gov will assign you a Unique Entity ID.
  - If you do not want to apply directly for awards, then you do not need a registration. If you
    only conduct certain types of transactions, such as reporting as a sub-awardee, you may
    not need to complete a registration. You may only need a Unique Entity ID, which is NOT
    the same as a SAM.gov registration.
- To see comprehensive instructions and checklist for entity registration, download the SAM.gov Entity Registration Checklist (PDF).
- A key part of the SAM.gov registration is identifying an <a href="EBiz point of contact">EBiz point of contact</a> (name and email address). This is key as you move forward to register in Grants.gov and apply.
- Please note that SAM.gov utilizes <u>Login.gov</u> since 2018. Login.gov is a free secure sign in service used by the public to sign in to participating government agencies system. The public can use the same username and password to access any agency that partners with Login.gov. This streamlines processes and eliminates the need to remember multiple usernames and passwords.

# Getting to the Entity Registration Checklist...



# Before you Apply to an EPA Competitive Opportunity: Grants.gov Registration

# You completed SAM.gov Registration and identified an <a href="EBiz point">EBiz point</a> of contact. Now what?

- Once you have registered in SAM.gov, and before applying for a funding opportunity, you need to register an account with Grants.gov.
  - For instructions, please view the <u>How to Register with Grants.gov</u> video.
- Once you have a Grants.gov account, users may <u>add a profile</u> to associate with an applicant organization. See <u>Applicant Registration</u> for more details.
- Prior to being able to complete or submit application packages in grants.gov on behalf of your organization, your organization's EBiz POC must authorize roles. This safeguards your organization from individuals who may attempt to submit grant application packages without permission.
- If you do not have the correct roles assigned by your organization in Grants.gov, you may receive a "Bad Request" error when initiating the application process. Please contact Grants.gov support if you encounter this issue.
- Please note that Grants.gov utilizes <u>Login.gov</u> since February 2022. (<u>RAIN-2022-G03</u>)

# Be in the Know:

Grants.gov Subscriptions, Workspace, and Additional Resources

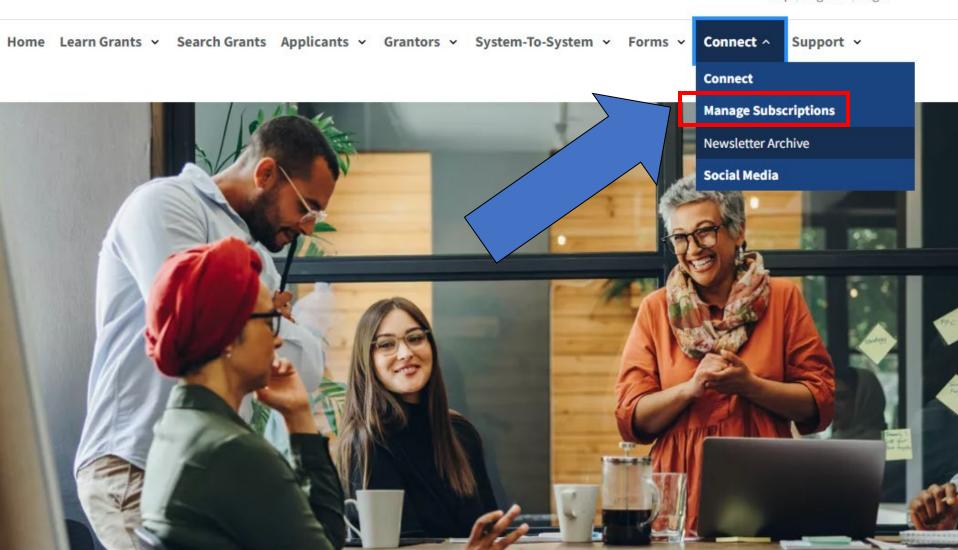
# **Grants.gov Subscriptions**

# You have a Grants.gov account and want to know the latest about grant opportunities: SUBSCRIBE!

When you create a Grants.gov account, you can customize the type of email notifications you receive:

- News updates about system enhancements and training resources
- Notifications about saved searches
- New funding opportunities (daily email of all new grant opportunities)
- Opportunities (notifications when changes are made to a specific opportunity's forecast, synopsis and/or package)
- Saved searches (notifications for new opportunities matching saved search criteria)





## **APPLICANT REGISTRATION**

#### Manage Subscriptions

- Newsletter Archive
- Social Media

### MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Customize your Grants.gov opportunity subscriptions, including expanded criteria for saved searches and the ability to view and manage existing subscriptions. To subscribe to Grants.gov email notifications, users must first create a Grants.gov account. Don't worry - the account registration process is quick and easy.



### **Custom Email Notifications**

When you create a Grants.gov account, you can customize the type of email notifications you receive. Log in and click the links below to subscribe to news updates about system enhancements, notifications about saved searches and new funding opportunities, and more.

#### » Subscribe to Grants.gov News

Receive Alerts and Newsletters containing updates about system enhancements and training resources

#### » Subscribe to all new grant opportunities

Receive a daily email listing all new grant opportunities

#### » Subscribe to opportunities

Receive notifications when changes are made to a specific opportunity's forecast, synopsis and/or packages

#### » Subscribe to saved searches for grant opportunities

Receive notifications for new opportunities matching saved search criteria

For more information on Grants.gov Subscriptions, please review the Connect with

# Applying on Grants.gov Workspace

# Workspace is the <u>only</u> method of submitting an application (unless you have an S2S connection)

- Reuse forms and auto-populate data
- Collaborative
- Detect errors earlier
- Best submission process for users with connectivity issues

Read more about <u>Workspace</u> and view the <u>Workspace Video Series</u>

## Other Resources

### New to Federal Grants?:

How to Register to Apply for Grants

**Workspace Information** 

### Grants.gov:

**Applicant Resources** 

**Grants.gov YouTube Channel** 

### **EPA-Specific Grants:**

Subscribe to EPA Grants Update Listserv

**Grants Webinars** 

**EPA Grants Website** 

# **Preparing Applications**

- Each NOFO has unique instructions and requirements
- Read the NOFO for eligibility information, deadlines, application content, review criteria, and more
- EPA's Competition Policy

**EPA Notices of Funding Opportunity** 

# Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Changes

As of October 1, 2024, NOFOs have a substantially different format.

### The new NOFO format is:

- 1. Basic Information
- 2. Eligibility
- 3. Program Description
- 4. Application Contents and Format
- 5. Submission Requirements and Deadlines
- 6. Application Review Information
- 7. Award Notices
- 8. Post Award Requirements and Administration
- 9. Other Information

### What's Included in an EPA NOFO

<u>Appendix I to Part 200 - Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> regulations provide requirements for funding opportunities.

### Section 1 – Basic Information

- Plain language summary of program
- How many grants are expected to be issued and expected amounts
- Agency Contacts
- Key Dates

<u>Appendix I to Part 200 - Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> regulations provide requirements for funding opportunities.

Section 2 – Eligibility

- Who can apply
- Cost Share
- Any additional restrictions

Section 3 – Program Description

- Description of specific grant activities to eligible for funding
- Goals and Objectives
- EPA's Statutory Authority

<u>Appendix I to Part 200 - Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> regulations provide requirements for funding opportunities.

Section 4 – Application Contents

- Required Documents
- Any formatting requirements
- Description of documents that may be required from successful applicants

Reminder: All EPA grant applications are submitted online.

Visit: <u>EPA Applicant and Recipient Forms</u>

<u>Appendix I to Part 200 - Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> regulations provide requirements for funding opportunities.

Section 5 – Submission Requirements and Deadlines

- Submission Deadline
- SAM.gov Requirements
- Grants.gov Registration and Requirements
- Submission Instructions

<u>Appendix I to Part 200 - Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> regulations provide requirements for funding opportunities.

Section 6 – Application Review

- How applications will be evaluated
- Review Criteria
- Any other factors

Section 7 – Award Notices

Wait for an official award document

<u>Appendix I to Part 200 - Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> regulations provide requirements for funding opportunities.

Section 8 – Post Award Requirements

- General Terms and Conditions
- Reporting on grant activities and progress

Section 9 – Other Information

- Additional legal requirements & link to clauses
- Other guidance

## **Modifications**

## EPA occasionally modifies NOFOs

• Due dates, clarification of requirements, etc.

#### **Automatic Notification**

- Sign up on Grants.gov for automatic notification of modifications to specific NOFOs
- Modifications posted on Grants.gov

Communicating with Applicants: Do's and Don'ts

# **Communications with Applicants**

- See Section 11 of the <u>Competition Policy</u>
- Limitations on what can be discussed and when
- Pre-proposal assistance
  - Many programs will post Q&As on a website
  - Some programs offer conference calls/webinars where applicants can ask questions

# **Communications with Applicants**

#### EPA can:

- Answer applicant eligibility questions if uncertain about if you are eligible or your project is eligible ask before proposal submission
- Clarify info on administrative aspects of proposal submission
- Respond to requests for clarification of the NOFO

NOTE: Clarifications that result in changes to the NOFO must be communicated (via modification on Grants.gov) to all potential applicants

# **Communications with Applicants**

#### **EPA cannot**:

- Offer to write applications for applicants
- Review or comment on draft applications
- Provide information on the Agency's approach to evaluating applications beyond what is described in Section 6 of the NOFO
- Provide a competitive advantage to any applicant

#### **Evaluation and Selection**

EPA Program Offices evaluate each eligible application using the criteria in Section 6 and make selections based on ranking and Other Factors listed in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Applicants that are ineligible or not selected will be notified and have 15 days to request a debriefing. See <a href="EPA's Solicitation">EPA's Solicitation</a>
<a href="Clauses">Clauses</a> for information on requesting debriefings and filing disputes.

Selected applicants will be notified and instructed on next steps.

# Selection Notification Is Not Approval to Begin Work

Selected applications undergo additional reviews to ensure compliance with programmatic and administrative grant requirements.

Only a Notice of Award signed by an EPA Award Official legally obligates federal funds and indicates the recipient can begin work.

# **Questions?**

Elizabeth January <u>January.Elizabeth@epa.gov</u>

Frank Roth <u>Roth.Francis@epa.gov</u>

Dannell Brown <u>Brown.Dannell@epa.gov</u>