



Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program

Program Guidance for States and Territories

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

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Summary

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provided appropriations to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to fund the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program authorized by section 302(a) of Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (SOS) (P.L. 116–224) as codified in 33 U.S.C. 4282(a). EPA also received appropriations for SWIFR in its Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriation Act (P.L. 117-103), Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriation Act (P.L. 117-328), Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriation Act (P.L. 118-42), and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4).

The purpose of this Program Guidance is to provide U.S. states and territories information to apply for the funding to support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs and to assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.

The term “post-consumer materials management” refers to the systems, operation, supervision and long-term management of processes and equipment used for post-use material (including packaging, goods, products, and other materials), including collection; transport; and systems and processes related to post-use materials that can be recovered, reused, recycled, repaired, or refurbished. It includes:

1. Municipal solid waste (MSW), including plastics, food, organics, paper, metal, tires, glass, etc.;
2. Construction and demolition (C&D) materials, including concrete, asphalt, steel, etc.; and
3. Management pathways of source reduction and reuse, recycling, composting, rendering, anaerobic digestion, and animal feed.

EPA has established three categories of grants within the SWIFR program, which are designed to fund a range of projects that will help states, territories, Tribes, local governments, and communities advance from “where they are” to significantly transform their recycling and materials management infrastructure.

1. **SWIFR Grants for States and Territories** will provide states and territories with grants to support their long-term planning and data collection needs to demonstrate progress toward the National Recycling Goal and Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal and advance a Circular Economy for materials.
2. **SWIFR Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia** will provide funds for Tribes and intertribal consortia to develop or update plans focused on encouraging environmentally sound post-consumer materials management; establish, increase, or expand materials management infrastructure, and identify, establish, or improve end-markets for the use of recycled materials.
3. **SWIFR Grants for Political Subdivisions** will establish, increase, expand, or optimize collection and improve materials management infrastructure; reduce contamination in the recycled materials stream; and identify, establish, or improve end-markets for the use of recycled materials.

This Program Guidance is for the SWIFR Grants for States and Territories and is only applicable to the funding described under this document. EPA will communicate any significant changes to our approach through questions and answers or further amendments to the Program Guidance.

Eligible Applicants

The eligible applicants for this SWIFR non-competitive funding for States and Territories are the 50 U.S. states; Washington, DC; Puerto Rico; Virgin Islands; Guam; American Samoa; and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. No more than one grant will be given to each state or territory. EPA expects to provide a supplemental funding amendment to the same entity that was awarded in the first round of funding.

Eligible Activities and Available Funding

The EPA is providing funding to eligible states and territories that “opt in” to this funding opportunity. After the number of states and territories requesting funding is determined (From *Section IV: Notice of Intent to Participate*), EPA will allocate the non-competitive funding using a formula that includes a minimum base amount for all states and territories (approximately \$300,000-\$500,000 per applicant in fiscal year 2025) plus additional funds based on individual states’ and territories’ programmatic factors, as described below determined in 2023. EPA awarded approximately \$32,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 and anticipates awarding a similar amount in fiscal year 2026. EPA will award the funds through the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) appropriation as cooperative agreements. ***No state match is required or allowed.*** Funds awarded under this program are not eligible for inclusion with the state’s performance partnership grants (PPGs) but may be included in territories’ consolidated grants under the Omnibus Territories Act at the discretion of the territories provided financial management procedures are in place to track, drawdown, and report on expenditures of IJA funds.

Generally, grant funds can be used for post-consumer materials management capacity building, planning, and implementation. Specifically, the grant funding may be used for carrying out the activities below, including the costs of staffing/personnel associated with undertaking the activities:

- **Develop or update plans to advance post-consumer materials management.** Plans can be for Title 40 CFR Part 256 solid waste management plans (SWMPs) or other planning documents (e.g., circular economy plans, recycling plans, materials management plans).
- **Develop, strengthen, and/or implement comprehensive data collection efforts** that demonstrate progress towards the National Recycling Goal and Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal.
- **Support the state-led implementation of plans to advance post-consumer materials management** including but not limited to: market development; improved recycling and organics collection and management; extended producer responsibility; small infrastructure activities; reducing contamination in the post-consumer recycling stream; and strengthening the connection between the environment and materials management.

Allowable costs for territories and the District of Columbia: In addition to eligible activities 1-3 above, territories and the District of Columbia may utilize funds directly for equipment and construction-related costs as part of their implementation of plans. These activities could include the purchase of collection equipment; compost bins and trucks; containers for donating surplus food; sorting and baling equipment, post-consumer materials management construction, equipment upgrades,

environmental monitoring and safety equipment for recycling facilities, and infrastructure to reduce single-use plastic use.

The work performed by subrecipients or contractors must qualify under the Eligible Activities/Use of Funding in *Section V: Eligible Activities/Use of Grant Funding*. An example of allowable work would be a for-profit organization assisting a state agency in performing data collection through a procurement contract. For additional information on determining whether entities should be classified as subrecipients or contractors, and important requirements involving these classifications, carefully review the guidance on contracts and subawards in [EPA's Subaward Policy](#).

For additional information, visit <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-transforming-us-recycling-and-waste-management>.

Schedule

If you are considering applying for this funding opportunity, please note the following schedule:

- **By February 28, 2026**, EPA will provide the allocation amounts to states and territories. Afterwards states and territories must submit workplan and application materials to their project officers. These materials must contain all of the information listed in *Section IX: Scope of Work*. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their EPA Regional Representatives if they have questions about their funding request prior to submitting their application.
- **On or before September 30, 2026, EPA Regional offices are expected to award and administer the grants.**

The general schedule and process is illustrated below (dates are estimates and subject to change):

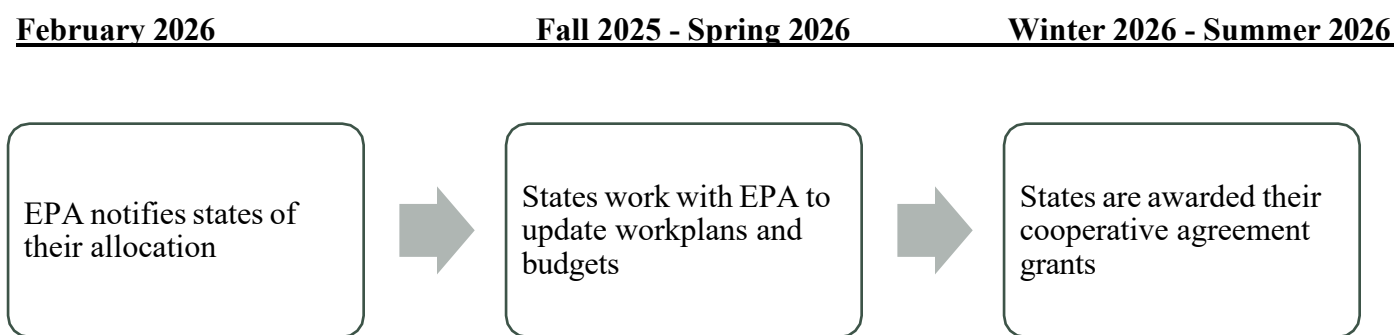


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I. **Background**

Municipal solid waste management has long suffered from a lack of investment. Some communities that lack waste management infrastructure do not have curbside waste collection services, recycling, or composting programs, which increases the burden on our landfills and decreases their capacity. For example, more than one-third (nearly 100 million tons) of the U.S. municipal waste stream is organic waste.¹ The production and current management of organics contributes to a broad range of environmental impacts, including air pollutants, water scarcity, biodiversity loss, and soil and water quality degradation. For example, producing, grading, packing, processing, distributing, retailing, and preparing the amount of food that is currently wasted annually in the U.S. requires enough water and energy to supply more than 50 million homes each year. Mismanaged waste also can compound health and economic conditions. In addition, as emergency disasters increase in frequency and severity, the need to maximize the recycling and reuse of disaster debris to support keeping valuable materials out of landfills is becoming increasingly important.

In an effort to reduce the impacts of materials and strengthen the U.S. recycling system, the EPA and others have undertaken significant efforts to advance the circular economy in the United States. In 2015, the EPA and USDA announced the [U.S. 2030 Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal](#), seeking to cut food loss and waste in half by the year 2030. In 2020, the EPA announced the [National Recycling Goal](#) to increase the U.S. recycling rate to 50 percent by 2030 and to galvanize efforts to strengthen the U.S. recycling system. One year later, the EPA released the [National Recycling Strategy: Part One of a Series on Building a Circular Economy for All](#), the same day that funding was made available to support the strategy through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Since then, the EPA has released the [National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and Recycling Organics](#), as well as the [National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution](#). This vision and strategy for a circular economy aligns with the language and the goals identified in the IIJA regarding solid waste infrastructure and management in the United States.

This Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program Guidance for States and Territories describes how the EPA will administer grant funds to support the enhancement of state post-consumer materials management regulatory and planning infrastructure.

For the purposes of this SWIFR Grant Program Guidance, the term “state” will be used to describe the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

II. **Overview**

The purpose of this Program Guidance is to provide states the information needed to apply for funding. These grant funds can be used by states to build the capacity of post-consumer materials management programs through planning, data collection, and the implementation of plans.

The term post-consumer materials management refers to the systems, operation, supervision and long-term management of processes and equipment used for post-use material (including packaging,

¹ https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-02/2018_wasted_food_report-v2.pdf

goods, products, and other materials), including collection; transport; and systems and processes related to post-use materials that can be recovered, reused, recycled, repaired, or refurbished. It includes:

- Municipal solid waste (MSW), including plastics, food, organics, paper, metal, tires, glass, etc.;
- Construction and demolition (C&D) materials, including concrete, asphalt, steel, etc.; and
- Management pathways of source reduction and reuse, recycling, composting, rendering, anaerobic digestion, and feeding animals.

EPA anticipates providing approximately \$35,000,000 in additional funding to eligible states for participating in the SWIFR Grant Program. Once the number of states requesting funding is determined (From *Section IV: Notice of Intent to Participate*), EPA plans to allocate the non-competitive funding using a formula that includes a minimum base amount for all states (approximately \$300,000-\$500,000 per applicant in fiscal year 2026) plus additional funds based on individual states' programmatic factors.

The funding for the SWIFR Grant Program will be in the form of cooperative agreements. A cooperative agreement is an assistance agreement that is used when there is substantial federal involvement throughout the performance of the project. The EPA awards cooperative agreements for those projects in which it expects to have substantial interaction with the recipient throughout the performance of the project (for the purposes of this document, the term "grant" will be used in place of cooperative agreements). The EPA will negotiate the precise terms and conditions of "substantial involvement" as part of the award process. The anticipated substantial federal involvement for these projects may include:

- Monitoring the applicant's performance to verify the results proposed by the applicant;
- Collaborating during performance of the scope of work;
- Approving qualifications of key personnel (EPA will not select employees or contractors employed by the award recipient); and
- Reviewing and commenting on reports prepared under the cooperative agreement (the final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient).

Leveraging or matching funds are not required for this grant program. The EPA reserves the right to partially fund or reject all projects and make no awards.

III. Eligible Applicants

The eligible applicants for this funding include the 50 U.S. states; Washington, DC; Puerto Rico; Virgin Islands; Guam; American Samoa; and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. **No more than one grant will be given to each state or territory.**

Section 302(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act identifies other eligible recipients, including Tribes and political subdivisions of the states and territories. The EPA has developed a separate SWIFR NOFO for political subdivisions of states and territories has developed a separate SWIFR NOFO for Tribes and intertribal consortia as well.

IV. Notice of Intent to Participate

States that wish to receive non-competitive SWIFR funding have sent a Notice of Intent to Participate (NOIP) to the EPA.

1. The EPA has electronically sent letters to each state asking if the state will be participating in the program.
2. States then submitted an NOIP to the EPA to identify its interest in the program.
3. The Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery and the appropriate EPA Regional representatives will work with the states to answer questions and resolve any issues.

V. Eligible Activities/Use of Funding

Because of the critical role states play in managing post-consumer wastes and materials, the EPA is providing SWIFR grants to states to build their capacity to plan, implement, and measure the outcomes of policies and other actions to meet the objectives of the IJIA and SOS 2.0 Act. Eligible activities under Section 302(a) of SOS 2.0 Act include implementing the series of circular economy strategies; supporting improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs; and assisting local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.

The general standards for determining allowability of activities are described in the [2 CFR Part 200](#) of the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) at [2 CFR Part 200.403](#). Costs must be necessary for the performance of the EPA award and not be prohibited by statute, the [2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E Cost Principles](#), another regulation, Program Guidance, or the terms of the award.

Specifically, grant funding can be used for the three categories of activities listed below.

- 1. Develop or update plans to advance post-consumer materials management.** Plans can be for [Title 40 CFR Part 256](#) solid waste management plans (SWMPs) or other planning documents (e.g., circular economy plans, materials management plans, scrap tire management plans, battery management plans), but should at a minimum address the following:
 - Current strategy and/or activities associated with post-consumer materials management in the state, including all materials in the municipal solid waste stream such as plastics, food waste, etc.
 - Current measurement and tracking capability and authority and identification of additional needs.
 - Partners who will play a role in meeting the objectives of the plan.
 - Plan for making progress toward goals and/or targets.
 - Strategy for measuring and tracking progress consistent with the [National Recycling Goal](#), and the 2030 [Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal](#).
 - Clear connection to circular economy, environmental goals, and action plans.
 - Administrative, legal, and/or financial needs or gaps that need to be addressed to meet goals and targets.

- Battery collection and management in the state.
- Strategy for including resiliency and natural disaster debris into plans by utilizing available guidance, such as [EPA's Planning for Natural Disaster Debris Guidance](#).

2. Develop, strengthen, and/or implement comprehensive data collection efforts that demonstrate progress towards the National Recycling Goal and Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal. Data collection and measurement efforts should be designed to improve the state's ability to track progress towards national and state recycling and/or circular economy goals. Data collection efforts could include state-wide or other targeted waste characterization studies. Fundamental items to consider when developing, strengthening, and/or implementing comprehensive data collection efforts include, but are not limited to:

- Clearly defining the waste streams being measured;
- Identifying specific materials being measured and appropriate units;
- Detailing data and methodology citations; and
- Developing information to understand the contamination of recyclable material streams.

No EPA funds may be used for the design or to administer the collection of identical information from 10 or more parties, and EPA personnel may not participate in such activities. Reasonable costs for analyzing independently collected information and publishing the results of such information collections are allowable to the extent authorized in the EPA approved budget for this agreement.

3. Support the state-led implementation of plans to advance post-consumer materials management. States should clearly identify which elements of their plan they propose to implement and the approach to be used. Implementation could address topics including, but not limited to:

- Market development;
- Improved recycling and organics collection and management; and
- Reducing contamination in the post-consumer recycling stream.

Approaches could include, but are not limited to:

- Regulatory and policy development;
- Studies and analysis of data;
- Outreach and information sharing with key stakeholders;
- Training of state personnel; and
- Subawards to local governments for recycling equipment and/or construction activities. States may utilize up to 40% of their funding allocation for equipment and/or construction through subawards. Individual subawards to specific entities may be no greater than \$100,000 per subaward.

If a state wishes to fund an activity not specifically listed in these three categories, an explanation of how the activity addresses the critical main functions under Section 302(a) of the SOS 2.0 Act must

be included in the workplan. States are encouraged to discuss these additional activities with their EPA Regional Representative prior to inclusion to determine if they are eligible activities.

Allowable costs for territories and the District of Columbia: In addition to eligible activities 1-3 above, territories and the District of Columbia may utilize funds for equipment and construction related costs as part of their implementation of plans. These activities could include the purchase of collection equipment; compost bins and trucks; containers for donating surplus food; sorting and baling equipment, post-consumer materials management construction, equipment upgrades, environmental monitoring and safety equipment for recycling facilities, infrastructure to reduce single-use plastic use. Also, in specific circumstances, the EPA will grant case-by-case waivers for the purchase of land that relates to projects under this funding opportunity. Note that all acquisitions of real property and equipment with EPA funding are subject to disposition requirements described in the Property Standards of [2 CFR Part 200](#).

VI. Ineligible Uses of Grant Funding

Examples of ineligible uses of grant funds are listed below. Please note that this list is intended to be illustrative and is not all inclusive. It is unallowable to use grant funding for the following activities:

- Except for territories and DC, or through subawards to local governments as listed above, the purchase of equipment or construction costs (please note, items in the “supplies” category are eligible for purchase).
 - Equipment is defined in [2 CFR 200.1](#) as tangible, personal property having a useful life of more than one year and a per unit acquisition cost that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the recipient or subrecipient for financial statement purposes, or \$10,000.
- The purchase of land by recipients other than territories.
- The operations and maintenance costs of post-consumer materials management facilities (e.g., maintenance of a material recovery facility, or operations of a composting site).
- Any prohibited or restricted activities as part of the [EPA General Terms and Conditions](#) (e.g., interest on borrowed funds, lobbying or litigation).

VII. Allocation of Funds

The EPA is providing funding to eligible states for participating in the SWIFR Grant Program. Once the number of states requesting funding is determined (From *Section IV: Notice of Intent to Participate*), EPA plans to allocate the non-competitive funding using a formula that includes a minimum base amount for all states (approximately \$300,000-\$500,000 per applicant in fiscal year 2026) plus additional funds based on individual states’ programmatic factors, as described below. Any funds remaining can be rolled over into future years of the grant program.

In the first draft of the workplans, states were asked to provide information on the following programmatic factors, which EPA used to determine the magnitude of additional funds that each state received beyond the minimum base amount. In general, the Agency intends to provide more funds to states with less-developed waste management systems in place, whether that is due to a lack

of staff and budget, guiding legislation, data collection, or other pre-existing issues. The factors are listed below.

1. Legislation in place that mandates solid waste management planning or a waste characterization report
2. Depth and breadth of a state's data collection efforts
3. When a state's solid waste management plan or waste characterization report was last updated
4. Available resources for implementing a solid waste management program (e.g., budget and personnel)
5. Additional programmatic factors such as the extent of focus on source reduction efforts, or the existence of other grant programs

VIII. Application Package and Submission Information

- **Mandatory updated documents (Please visit <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grantee-forms> for updated forms):**
 - Standard Form (SF) 424, Application for Federal Assistance.
 - Standard Form (SF) 424A, Budget Information.
 - Key Contacts Form 5700-54.
 - EPA Form 4700-4, Pre-award Compliance Review.
 - Project Narrative Attachment Form (Reference *Appendix A: Optional Template of Key Workplan Elements*).
- **Optional Documents:**
 - Negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, as applicable.
 - National Environmental Policy Act documents (for states and territories performing construction activities).
 - Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), as applicable.
 - A QAPP will be required if the project includes the generation of environmental data or the use of existing data.

IX. Scope of Work

States should consider the following parameters when developing the scope of work for their project narrative attachment form.

- **Eligible Activities:**
 - Applicants must include the eligible activities that will be part of the grant that are referred to in *Section V: Eligible Activities/Use of Funding*, above.
 - Applicants must include a timeline of the activities to be performed.
- **Program Goals and Objectives:**

- The activities to be funded under this funding announcement must support [Administrator Zeldin's Five Pillars](#). Specifically for this funding opportunity, Pillar 1: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American.
- **Anticipated Outputs/Outcomes:**
 - Applicants must include outcomes and outputs that they will be reporting on as part of their projects.

- **Outputs:** The term “output” means an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal and objective that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during an assistance agreement funding period.

Please reference “Table 1: Optional and Required Outputs and Outcomes” for additional information on optional and required outputs for this funding opportunity. Additional, optional outputs can be added to this list, as applicable.

- **Outcomes:** The term “outcome” means the result, effect, or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity that is related to an environmental or programmatic goal or objective. Outcomes may be qualitative and environmental, behavioral, health-related, or programmatic in nature, but must also be quantitative. They may not necessarily be achievable within an assistance agreement funding period.

Please reference “Table 1: Outputs and Outcomes” for additional information on required outcomes for this funding opportunity. Additional, optional outcomes can be added to this list, as applicable.

To the extent possible, in reporting on outputs please align the definitions of municipal solid waste and construction and demolition debris with how they are referenced in the [Standardized Terms for Materials Accepted by Municipal Recycling Programs](#).

Table 1: Outputs and Outcomes

Grantees will report on the following measures based on the category of activity funded:

Possible Activities	Measures
<i>Develop/Update plans</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of stakeholders and communities involved in the plan development or implementation. ● Number of plans developed or updated. ● Number of counties or territorial equivalents served by the plans. ● Number of communities served by the plan. ● Number of temporary or permanent jobs created.

Possible Activities	Measures
<i>Develop and Enhance data collection and measurement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tons of MSW/C&D collected, recycled, composted, or managed via other management pathways in the state. • Tons of MSW/C&D generated per material type and source in the state (e.g., plastic and food waste). • Number of temporary or permanent jobs created.
<i>Implementation of the Plan</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tons of MSW/C&D collected, recycled, composted, or managed via other management pathways in the state. • Tons of MSW/C&D generated per material type and source in the state (e.g., plastic and food waste). • Number of communities served because of plan implementation. • Number of temporary or permanent jobs created.

Note, outputs and outcomes listed in Table 1 are not all inclusive of all potential outputs and outcomes – additional outputs and outcomes may be added by the applicant. However, those outputs listed in the table are required if a project in the “Activity” column is performed.

- **Project and Budget:**
 - Applicants must include the project and budget for the grant. Grants will be amended for up three additional years in addition to the three years in the original grant.

X. **Award Administration Information**

Please be aware of the following requirements as workplans are developed and as the grant programs are implemented. If you have question or concerns about these items, contact your EPA Regional Representative in *Section XIII: EPA Regional Representatives* for additional information.

- **OMB Uniform Grant Guidance and EPA Uniform Administrative Requirements:** This award program is subject to the OMB Uniform Grant Guidance requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) and EPA Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards requirements of [2 CFR Part 1500](#). A listing and description of EPA’s general regulations applicable to the award of assistance agreements may be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-policies-and-guidance-grants>.
- **Terms and Conditions:** General administrative and programmatic terms and conditions applicable to EPA assistance agreements under this program may be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grant-terms-and-conditions>. EPA Headquarters will provide EPA Regions with a list of programmatic terms and conditions that will also be applicable to the program. EPA Regional Representatives will ensure that all applicable terms and conditions are included.

Applicants should be aware that if their proposals include using SWIFR funds for a project that includes the purchase of goods, products, and materials on any form of construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States

(including in the territories), they must comply with the Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions of the IIJA. Please consider this information when preparing budget information. The Office of Land and Emergency Management has released Implementation Procedures relating to BABA that can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-12/olem-implementation-procedures.pdf>. Applicants should direct additional questions about this requirement to the program Point of Contact listed in *Section XIII: EPA Regional Representatives*.

- **Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP):** Awards funded under this program that will include the collection of environmental data, will require the development of a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). The structure of the QAPP is intended to step through the thought process of planning a project, as well as to provide a framework for documenting the plan. A QAPP is prepared as part of the project planning process and should be completed and approved before data collection is started. For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/irmpoli8/environmental-information-policy-procedures-and-standards>.
- **Funding to Other State Agencies:** The EPA's general policy, based on the definitions of the terms "Nonfederal entity," "Pass-through entity," "Recipient," and "State" found in [2 CFR Part 200](#), is that the state itself is the legal entity that receives EPA funds even if one particular component of the state is named in the assistance agreement as the recipient. Transfers of EPA funds between state agencies to perform a particular financial assistance agreement would, therefore, be governed by state law. Additionally, "Interagency Services" ([2 CFR Part 200.417](#)) contemplates situations in which one agency provides services to another agency within the same unit of government as a direct cost of performing the EPA assistance agreement.

If using interagency service agreements between state agencies, as described in [2 CFR Part 200.417](#), the expenditures the state agency makes to carry out the Interagency Service Agreement should be shown in the corresponding direct cost categories (Personnel, Travel, Contractual, etc.). If state law characterizes agreements under which one state agency provides services to another state agency as a procurement contract, then the costs would be placed in the contractual category. In interagency service situations, as described in [2 CFR Part 200.417](#), provides the state may charge a pro-rated share of indirect costs for the service, or 10% of the ". . . direct salary and wage cost of providing the service (excluding overtime, shift premiums, and fringe benefits) may be used in lieu of determining the actual indirect costs of the service." Centralized services included in central service cost allocation plans subject to [Appendix V of 2 CFR Part 200](#) are accounted for separately.

There may be situations in which state law provides that state agencies or instrumentalities are legally separate for the purposes of financial transactions between them or when state financial management policies for Federal assistance agreements require separate instruments for accounting purposes (e.g., due to differences in indirect cost rates). In those situations, a state may characterize appropriate funding transfers as subawards. Note, however, that if one state agency provides a subaward to another state agency, the state agency acting as the pass-through entity must comply with applicable provisions of the OMB Uniform Grant Guidance requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) (including [2 CFR Part 200.331](#)), the National Term and Condition for Subawards, and the EPA Subaward Policy unless the EPA provides an exception.

Also, should a state choose to provide subawards, the awards must be governed by the subaward policy. The aggregate cost estimates for subawards to other state agencies or instrumentalities should be included as line items in the “Other” budget category. The link to the Subaward policy is <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grants-policy-issuance-gpi-16-01-epa-subaward-policy-epa-assistance-agreement-recipients>.

- **Procurements:** When procuring property and services under a federal award, a state must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-federal funds. The state will comply with the Procurement of Recovered Materials requirements of [2 CFR Part 200.323](#) and ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by the Contract Provisions of [2 CFR Part 200.326](#).
 - **Good Faith Efforts [40 CFR Part 33 Subpart C](#):** A recipient, including one exempted from applying the fair share objective requirements by 40 CFR Part [33.411](#), is required to make the following good faith efforts whenever procuring construction, equipment, services and supplies under an EPA financial assistance agreement, even if it has achieved its fair share objectives under [subpart D of this part](#):
 - (a) Ensure DBEs are made aware of contracting opportunities to the fullest extent practicable through outreach and recruitment activities. For Indian Tribal, State and Local and Government recipients, this will include placing DBEs on solicitation lists and soliciting them whenever they are potential sources.
 - (b) Make information on forthcoming opportunities available to DBEs and arrange time frames for contracts and establish delivery schedules, where the requirements permit, in a way that encourages and facilitates participation by DBEs in the competitive process. This includes, whenever possible, posting solicitations for bids or proposals for a minimum of 30 calendar days before the bid or proposal closing date.
 - (c) Consider in the contracting process whether firms competing for large contracts could subcontract with DBEs. For Indian Tribal, State and local Government recipients, this will include dividing total requirements when economically feasible into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by DBEs in the competitive process.
 - (d) Encourage contracting with a consortium of DBEs when a contract is too large for one of these firms to handle individually.
 - (e) Use the services and assistance of the SBA and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce.
 - (f) If the prime contractor awards subcontracts, require the prime contractor to take the steps in [paragraphs \(a\)](#) through [\(e\)](#) of this section.
- **Labor Standards:** As provided in 33 U.S.C. 4282(e) EPA must ensure that “. . . all laborers and

mechanics employed on projects funded directly, or assisted in whole or in part, by a [SWIFR grant] be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with [the Davis-Bacon Act]”. The Davis-Bacon Act applies to contractors and subcontractors performing work on federally funded or assisted construction contracts in excess of \$2,000. EPA uses the definition of *Construction* at [40 CFR 33.103](#) for the purposes of determining whether the Davis Bacon Act applies to SWIFR funded projects. Additional information on Davis Bacon and SWIFR is available at <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/solid-waste-infrastructure-recycling-grants-states-and-territories#updates>.

- **Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs):** Funds awarded under this program are not eligible for inclusion with the states’ PPGs.
- **Omnibus Territories Act (OTA):** The Omnibus Territories Act, 48 U.S.C. 1469a, (OTA) applies to grants awarded to the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands (“Insular areas”). The OTA allows Insular areas to submit:

“(i) a single application for a consolidated grant for any fiscal year period, but not more than one such application for a consolidated grant shall be required by any department or agency unless notice of such requirement is transmitted to the appropriate committees of the United States Congress together with a complete explanation of the necessity for requiring such additional applications and (ii) a single report to such department or agency with respect to each such consolidated grant: **Provided, That nothing in this paragraph shall preclude such department or agency from providing adequate procedures for accounting, auditing, evaluating, and reviewing any programs or activities receiving benefits from any consolidated grant.**” . . . (emphasis added)

EPA regulations at [40 CFR Part 35.109\(b\)](#) state that “[I]nsular areas that choose to consolidate environmental program grants may be exempted by the Regional Administrator from requirements of [40 CFR Part 35, subpart A] in accordance with 48 U.S.C. 1469a.

- **Reporting:** In accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program Performance of [2 CFR Part 200.329](#) and related EPA-specific regulations, recipients must provide progress reports meeting the terms and conditions of their grant. Recipient costs for complying with reporting requirements are an eligible expense under the grant. At a minimum, progress reports must include both a narrative discussion and performance data relating to the recipient’s accomplishments and environmental outputs and outcomes from *Section IX: Scope of Work* associated with the approved budget and workplan.

Reports must also provide an accounting of SWIFR Grant funding. Semiannual progress reports and a detailed final report will be required, including summaries of the project activity and status of outputs during the reporting period.

- Semiannual reports will include information on grant activity comparing actual work performed to meet the objectives of the program compared to that described in the workplan for the period of performance. Reporting must include a description of project tasks, objectives, and accomplishments (including reporting on outcomes and outputs), a summary of expenditures to date, upcoming events/assistance required, and project challenges. Reasons why outputs/outcomes were not met must be provided. Semiannual reports are due 30 days after the end of the reporting period.
- The final report must include a summary of the work completed as part of the grant. It may take the place of the final semiannual report. It must include a description of project tasks, objectives, and accomplishments (including reporting on outcomes and outputs). In addition, any deliverables produced must be submitted to the EPA (e.g., new or updated plans, data reports). The final report shall be submitted to the EPA within 120 calendar days of the project/budget period end date.

XI. Award Process and Timeline

The EPA recognizes that there is a wide variation among states and is presenting this process to provide a general outline of the steps to be followed for state submissions. Dates are subject to change.

- **By February 28, 2026**, EPA will provide the allocation amounts to states and territories. Afterwards states and territories must submit workplan and application materials to their project officers. These materials must contain all the information listed in *Section IX: Scope of Work*. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their [EPA Regional Representatives](#) if they have questions about their funding request prior to submitting their application.
- **On or before September 30, 2026, EPA Regional offices anticipate awarding and administering the grants.**

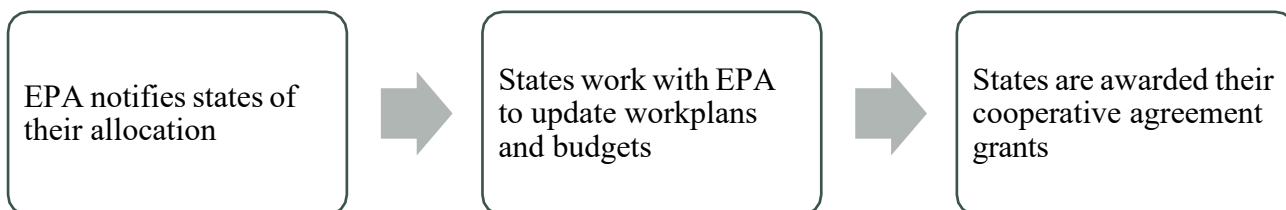
States are strongly encouraged to begin their internal process as early as possible to identify activities for the grant award and to identify multiple potential projects if one or more projects are ineligible. States are encouraged to talk with their EPA Regional Representatives to discuss proposed activities prior to submission of the updated draft workplan so that the subsequent submission can be reviewed and approved in a timely manner. The EPA encourages states to submit workplans to their EPA region as soon as possible if they believe that there are difficult issues that may arise (e.g., whether a proposed activity is legally fundable or meets mandatory criteria established by statute).

The general schedule and process is illustrated below (dates are estimates and subject to change):

February 2026

Fall 2025 - Spring 2026

Winter - Summer 2026



XII. Statutory Authority

Section 302(a) of the SOS 2.0 Act, 33 U.S.C. 4282(a) or Public Law 116–224 (SOS 2.0 Act) authorizes the EPA to fund grants for improvements to local post-consumer materials management programs (including municipal recycling programs) and local waste management systems. Congress appropriated funding as part of the IIJA and additional funds were appropriated as part of the EPA’s annual appropriations in fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025. Funding is provided through State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) appropriation account.

As stated in Section 302 of SOS 2.0:

(a) POST-CONSUMER MATERIALS MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL. — The EPA Administrator may provide grants to States to implement the strategy developed under section 301(a) and—

(A) to support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs; and

(B) to assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.

XIII. EPA Regional Representatives

Region	EPA Regional Representative	Email
Region 1: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Frank Gardner Ania-Nabi Ruiz	Gardner.Frank@epa.gov Ruiz.AniaNabi@epa.gov
Region 2: NJ, NY, PR, VI	Rachel Chaput	Chaput.Rachel@epa.gov
Region 3: DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Melissa Pennington	Pennington.Melissa@epa.gov
Region 4: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	Alyssa Kuhn	Kuhn.Alyssa@epa.gov
Region 5: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	Susan Vescovi	Vescovi.Susan@epa.gov
Region 6: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	Jessica Miller	Miller.Jessica@epa.gov
Region 7: IA, KS, MO, NE	Toni Gargas Gayle Hubert	Gargas.Toni@epa.gov Hubert.Gayle@epa.gov
Region 8: CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	Patrick Wauters Lauren Gregory	Wauters.Patrick@epa.gov Gregory.Lauren@epa.gov
Region 9: AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, MP	John Katz	Katz.John@epa.gov
Region 10: AK, ID, OR, WA	Melissa Winters	Winters.Melissa@epa.gov

XIV. Resources

- *EPA SWIFR Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/circulareconomy/transforming-us-recycling-and-waste-management>
- *Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements:* <https://www.epa.gov/grants/best-practice-guide-procuring-services-supplies-and-equipment-under-epa-assistance>
- *EPA Subaward Policy with attachments:* <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grants-policy-issuance-gpi-16-01-epa-subaward-policy-epa-assistance-agreement-recipients>
- *EPA Interim General Budget Development Guidance for Applicants and Recipients of EPA Financial Assistance:* <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-05/documents/applicant-budget-development-guidance.pdf>
- *EPA Grants Policy Resources:* <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-policies-and-guidance-grants>
- *EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients:* <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-management-training-applicants-and-recipients>
- *EPA Information on QAPPs:* <https://www.epa.gov/irmpoli8/environmental-information-policy-procedures-and-standards>

Appendix A: Optional Template of Key Workplan Elements

Instructions:

- Replace text in green with your own text.
- Instructions are in red italics and can be deleted before workplan submission.
- This workplan is **cumulative** and should include all grant activities from the work that began in 2023 and the new work being performed through 2029.
- **Note: Grant recipients may use other formats for their workplan.**

Optional Project Narrative Workplan for the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants for States and Territories

[Insert State/Territory Name]

[Grant Number 4Z/SC#####]

State/Territory Point of Contact:

Name	
Title	
Phone	
Email	
Address	

Total Amount Requested [should be equal to your state or territory's combined allocation of the life of the grant (First round funding + Second round funding = Total Amount)]:

\$XXX,XXX

Period of Performance: October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2029 [Can end earlier if desired]

Section 1. Project Summary and Overall Approach

Summary Statement: EPA's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grants for states and territories will fund activities that support long-term planning and data collection needs to demonstrate progress toward the National Recycling Goal and Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal and advance a Circular Economy for materials, as well as support the state-led implementation of plans to advance post-consumer materials management. The purpose of this award is to enhance the [State/Territory's] efforts to meet the SWIFR grants elements. [State/Territory] will do [insert activities here, customize based on the work to be performed workplan.]

A. BACKGROUND: [A description of the existing program and information on the five factors listed in Section VII. Allocation of Funds as well as programmatic accomplishments within the original project period.]

Description of Existing Program: *[Information on the five factors from the original workplan.]*

- a. Legislation in place that mandates solid waste management planning or a waste characterization report:
- b. Depth and breadth of a state's data collection efforts:
- c. When a state's solid waste management plan or waste characterization report was last updated:
- d. Available resources for implementing a solid waste management program (e.g., budget and personnel):
- e. Additional programmatic factors such as the extent of focus on source reduction efforts, or the existence of other grant programs:

Description of the existing work that has been done during the initial 3 years of the project:

B. ACTIVITIES, TIMELINE, AND MILESTONES:

The objective of this project is to *[add objectives]*. *[State]* will perform the following activities: *[List activities]*.

Timeline/Milestones: *[A timeline for all activities selected for funding, including milestones for specific tasks. Utilize the Activities Narrative Table below for timeframe for accomplishments, and you can add any additional relevant timeline/milestones here as well.]*

Eligible Activities/Use of Funding:

- *In the Activities Narrative Table below describe how the proposed project will utilize the SWIFR grant funding to support the eligible activities outlined in the Program Guidance, including the three categories of activities listed below from the program guidance (in Task 2: Program Activities).*
- *Please utilize Table 1 from the Program Guidance (pasted below) for the **Results of Activities (Outputs)** and **Projected Environmental or Programmatic Improvement (Outcomes)** rows.*

Table 1: Outputs and Outcomes

Possible Activities	Measures
<i>Develop/Update plans</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of stakeholders and communities involved in the plan development or implementation.• Number of plans developed or updated.• Number of counties or territorial equivalents served by the plans.• Number of communities served by the plan.• Number of temporary or permanent jobs created.

Possible Activities	Measures
<i>Develop and Enhance data collection and measurement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tons of MSW/C&D collected, recycled, composted, or managed via other management pathways in the state as a result of the grant. • Tons of MSW/C&D generated per material type and source in the state as a result of the grant (e.g., plastic and food waste). • Number of temporary or permanent jobs created.
<i>Implementation of the Plan</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tons of MSW/C&D collected, recycled, composted, or managed via other management pathways in the state. • Tons of MSW/C&D generated per material type and source in the state (e.g., plastic and food waste). • Number of communities served because of plan implementation. • Number of temporary or permanent jobs created.

Activities Narrative Table

Activities Narrative	Timeframe for Accomplishment (FFY Quarter)	Results of Activities (Outputs)	Projected Environmental or Programmatic Improvement (Outcomes)
Task 1: Cooperative Agreement (CA) Oversight			
Activity 1: Program Management and Supervision			
Supervise and manage the SWIFR grant to meet program goals. Conduct periodic project status meetings with staff to discuss project issues and priorities.	Ongoing annual activities	Performance Management Program (PMP) Evaluations	Maintain effective work force to meet work plan commitments
Submit semiannual reports and fulfil other reporting requirements in a timely and accurate manner	Semiannually	Semiannual reports	Improved implementation of SWIFR program, increased organization of information to better assist review
Maintain grant files, site project files and financial records	Ongoing	Accurate and complete files suitable for audit purposes	High quality project records reflective of the work performed
Requests for reimbursements or advances	Ongoing	Drawdowns from ASAP	Reduce unliquidated obligations

Activities Narrative	Timeframe for Accomplishment (FFY Quarter)	Results of Activities (Outputs)	Projected Environmental or Programmatic Improvement (Outcomes)
Attend EPA Community of Practice forums and other related trainings or workshops	Ongoing	Attend EPA forums and meetings	Improve knowledge and expand networking opportunities
Activity 2: Cooperative Agreement Management			
Ensure that Cooperative Agreement (CA) revised workplan is developed in accordance with State and EPA policies. Ensure that budget and administrative aspects of application requests conform to State and EPA policies. Review new and revised CA agreement guidance and serve as a resource for staff.	Initially and as needed.	CA work plans, budgets, and federal assistance forms	Effective CA applications, expedited processing, improved awareness of EPA guidance
Maintain current Quality Assurance Documents [Quality Management Plan and/or Quality Assurance Project Plan].	Annually	Approved Quality Assurance Documents	Grant compliance
Administer project closeout activities.	Within 120 days of grant expiration	Final report and close out documents	Project closeout
Activity 3: Cooperative Agreement Legal Assistance			
Review and provide interpretation of State laws and regulations to ensure effective implementation of the SWIFR program.	As necessary	Legal review	Improved implementation of the SWIFR program
Activity 4: Fiscal and Contract Management			
Track the status of deliverables for contracted projects	As projects progress through program	Semiannual Report	Efficient contracting activity, ensure work plan commitments are met

Activities Narrative	Timeframe for Accomplishment (FFY Quarter)	Results of Activities (Outputs)	Projected Environmental or Programmatic Improvement (Outcomes)
Task 2: Program Enhancement			
Activity 1: Enhance Program			
Participate in meetings, conference calls, and other events with EPA and other states to exchange information regarding best practices, program updates, and the like.	As new learning opportunities occur	Identification of best practices	Established Networks for information exchanges
Evaluate perceived roadblocks to utilizing the SWIFR Program, reevaluate existing program and incorporate steps to streamline the program and increase its use. Institutionalize changes. Engage in dialogue with EPA regarding program changes.	Fiscal years 2024 - 2026	Updates to program	Increase use of the program
Task 3: Program Activities			
Activity 1: Develop or update plans to advance post-consumer materials management. <i>[Delete this activity and renumber if it is not an activity your grant is being used for.]</i>			
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1: Outputs and Outcomes in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1: Output and Outcomes in the SWIFR Program Guidance).
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).

Activities Narrative	Timeframe for Accomplishment (FFY Quarter)	Results of Activities (Outputs)	Projected Environmental or Programmatic Improvement (Outcomes)
		Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).
Activity 2: Develop, strengthen, and/or implement comprehensive data collection efforts that demonstrate progress towards the National Recycling Goal and Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal. <i>[Delete this activity and renumber if it is not an activity your grant is being used for.]</i>			
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).
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Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).
Activity 3: Support the state-led implementation of plans <i>[Delete this activity and renumber if it is not an activity your grant is being used for. Note that the territories and DC can include equipment and construction activities here.]</i>			

Activities Narrative	Timeframe for Accomplishment (FFY Quarter)	Results of Activities (Outputs)	Projected Environmental or Programmatic Improvement (Outcomes)
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).
Add activities related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add timeframe related to the work being proposed in your project.	Add outputs related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).	Add outcomes related to the work being proposed in your project (e.g., the measures in Table 1 in the SWIFR Program Guidance).

C. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: *[A discussion of the roles and responsibilities of the state and any other project partners/stakeholders, contractors, or subrecipients.]*

Section 2: Programmatic Priorities

The activities described in this workplan support the grant Programmatic Priorities and Administrator Zeldin's Pillar 1: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American by *[insert how the project supports Pillar 1]*.

Section 3. Environmental Results—Outputs and Outcomes

[This section of the workplan includes a discussion of the outputs and outcomes of the project/activities, as described in Section IX: Scope of Work. In addition to the required outputs and outcomes listed in Section IX, you may add project-specific outputs and outcomes to the table.]

[State/Territory] will [list anticipated deliverables and expected outcomes, and intended beneficiary(ies), customize based on the deliverables, expected outcomes, and intended beneficiary(ies).] [Use the information from the Activities Narrative Table Above for this section.]

Section 4. Budget Narrative

[This section of the workplan is a description of the budget and includes estimated funding amounts for each work component/task.]

Proposed Budget

	Task 1: Cooperative Agreement Oversight Amount	Task 2: Program Enhancement Amount	Task 3: Program Activities Amount	Total
Personnel				
Fringe ([%] of Personnel)				
Travel				
Equipment (territories and DC only)				
Supplies				

	Task 1: Cooperative Agreement Oversight Amount	Task 2: Program Enhancement Amount	Task 3: Program Activities Amount	Total
Contractual				
Construction (territories and DC only)				
Other (Subawards, Participant Support Costs)				
Indirect				
TOTAL				

Notes:

- *The budget must be in accordance with the guidelines of the SWIFR Grants for States and Territories and the 2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Grant Guidance.*
- *Ineligible costs must not be included in the budget.*
- *Reminder that all subawards go under the “Other” category.*

Budget Description *[This section of the workplan is a description of the budget and includes estimated funding amounts for each work component/task.]*

[Provide a detailed justification for each budget category listed in the table above, including the Personnel, Equipment, Supplies, Contractual Services, and Other costs associated with the project. Explain how each budget item is necessary for the performance of the grant award and how it supports the objectives of the SWIFR Grant Program.]

Describe any subrecipient activities (if applicable).

Describe any participant support cost activities (if applicable).

Describe any procurement contracting activities (if applicable).

Build America, Buy America Act: *[Territories and DC purchasing equipment or doing construction should include a statement either confirming that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used are produced in the US or that indicates that they wish to pursue a waiver. Additionally, states providing subawards to local governments must also ensure that those local governments comply with BABA.]*

NEPA: *[Territories and DC performing construction activities must explain whether the project will be funded by other state or federal agencies, and if environmental reviews are required by other state or federal agencies, explain whether they have been started or not. Briefly describe additional funding and applicable environmental reviews. Additionally, states providing subawards to local governments must also ensure that those local governments compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).]*