EPA Grants Reference Guide: How to Find and Apply for Competitive Grant Opportunities

An Interactive Guide to Frequently Asked Questions Related to EPA Federal Government Grants



Reaching The Summit With EPA Grants

(Select the Question to be Directed to Useful Information)

| How can I get notified when grant opportunities are added to Grants.gov? |
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| Do I have to apply through Grants.gov? |
| What forms are required to be submitted with an EPA application? |
| How does EPA evaluate competitive grant applications? |
| |

What if I have a question about that isn't covered in any of the available webinars or trainings?



Where can I find Federal grant opportunities?

All federal grant opportunities are posted on <u>Grants.gov</u>. Interested applicants can search posted and forecasted (upcoming) opportunities on the <u>Search Grants</u> tab. Once in the Search Grants tab, applicants can narrow their search to EPA grants by doing the following:

Funding Agreement Type: choose Cooperative Agreement and Grant

Eligibility: All

Category: All

• Agency: All Environmental Protection Agency [EPA]



How can I get notified when grant opportunities are added to Grants.gov?

In the Manage Subscriptions section of Grants.gov, applicants can subscribe in order to receive a daily email listing all new opportunities, receive notifications of changes to a specific opportunity, or receive notifications for new opportunities matching saved search criteria. This article can help applicants manage their subscriptions:

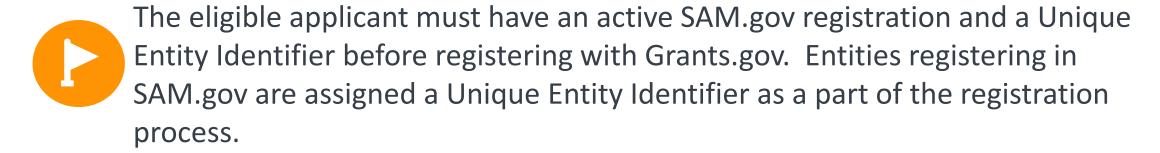
Connect with Grants.gov

Please note that you must have a Grants.gov account to subscribe to email notifications. Go to <u>Grants.gov</u> to register.



What registrations do I need before I can apply for federal grants?

To submit an application using Grants.gov, the eligible applicant must be registered in SAM.gov and Grants.gov. It may take up to four weeks to complete registration in both SAM.gov and Grants.gov.



Once registered in SAM.gov, applicants can register in Grants.gov and assign Grants.gov Roles. Please note that only Authorized Organization Representatives (AORs) can submit an application on behalf of the applicant. See Registering an Organization for more information



Do I have to apply through Grants.gov?

All initial proposals/applications submitted for EPA assistance agreement awards must be submitted using Grants.gov.

Applicants that have limited or no internet capacity should refer to the PDF on the <u>Exceptions to the Grants.gov Requirement page</u> describing the process to request an exception.



How do I use Workspace on Grants.gov?

All grant applicants must use Workspace to submit applications through Grants.gov.

<u>Grants.gov Workspace Training for Grant Applicants and Recipients</u>: This EPA hosted training session provides a demonstration on Workspace





What forms are required to be submitted with an EPA application?

EPA requires the following forms to be provided with a grant application.

Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Budget Information for Non-Construction Program (SF-424A)

EPA Key Contacts (Form 5700-54)

Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants and Recipients Requesting Federal Financial Assistance (Form 4700-4)

Project Narrative or Workplan



Are there EPA webinars or trainings on how to apply for EPA grants?



EPA R3 Grants 101: <u>Utilizing EPA Grants to Improve Your Community</u> A PDF of this presentation is also available at <u>Utilizing EPA Grants to Improve your Community - Slides</u>



Grants Award Process Webinar: This high-level webinar covered topics related to finding and applying for grants as well as the basics of managing a grant award. Details about this webinar and previous offerings are available from the link above.



EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients: This online training course is designed to introduce EPA grant applicants and recipients to key aspects of the entire grant life cycle, from preparation of an application through grant closeout.



Are there EPA webinars or trainings on how to apply for EPA grants? continued

- Competition Process Webinar: This webinar covered how to find and successfully apply for EPA grants.
- Developing a Budget Webinar: Learn how to develop budgets and budget narratives in this instructor-led version of EPA's Developing a Budget online training course.
- How to Develop a Budget: This online training course is designed to introduce EPA grant applicants and recipients to key aspects of grant budget development. The training may be used by applicants and recipients of EPA funds when preparing proposed work plans, budgets, and budget narratives for EPA grants



How does EPA evaluate competitive grant applications?

- The EPA competitive solicitation and evaluation process involves several steps and, unfortunately, not every applicant will be successful in receiving an EPA grant.
- The <u>EPA Competitive Process Flow Chart</u> includes the steps from Request for Application to Selection, as well as the <u>debriefing and dispute process</u> for not selected applicants.
- Pay close attention to the evaluation criteria on the Request for Application and ensure that your workplan includes all required criteria.
- Grants.gov offers general <u>Tips for Writing Grants.</u>



What if I have a question about that isn't covered in any of the available webinars or trainings?

Please email any questions to

R3 grant questions@epa.gov