U.S. EPA & Federal Funding Opportunities

Updated December 2024



A grant is one of many different forms of federal financial assistance. Finding the right grant for your organization's needs can be difficult.

In this document, you will find information about:

- 1 How to stay up to date on environmental justice funding
- 2 Available funding opportunities
- 3 Recurring funding opportunities
- 4 How to search **Grants.gov** for more funding opportunities

If you are looking for more support on the **Grants.gov** application process, view the **Grants.gov** guide.



Stay Up to Date on Environmental Justice Funding Opportunities

Stay up to date on new environmental justice funding opportunities as they are announced:

1. By email:

- Sign up for the EPA's Environmental Justice (EJ) listserv by sending a blank email to
 join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov. This will add you to the distribution list, and you will begin receiving
 occasional email announcements on funding opportunities, trainings and other EJ updates straight
 to your inbox upon release.
- Sign up for the Department of Transportation's Thriving Communities Network newsletter by sending a blank email to <u>ThrivingCommunitiesNetwork@dot.gov</u>. You will receive updates about upcoming programs, events and other opportunities.
- Receive customized email alerts from Grants.gov on upcoming or selected funding opportunities by creating saved searches with expanded search criteria after creating a free account on Grants.gov. Learn how to set up customized alerts at the end of Section 4, How to search Grants.gov for more funding opportunities.

2. On social media:

- You can also follow EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights on X (formerly Twitter). Visit the EPA EJ account feed at https://x.com/epaenvjustice
- To follow this account on X, you need to log in with your own account (creating an account on X is
 free), visit the EPA EJ account feed at https://x.com/epaenvjustice and then click on the "Follow"
 button just below their header image.

3. On the web:

- Several nonprofits maintain user-friendly lists of funding opportunities, like the Justice40 Accelerator. Find one that covers the types of grants your organization uses and check it regularly. The Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTAC) curated grants page links to several grant opportunities at https://www.ejtctac.org/curated-grants
- The TCTACs also maintain a list of funding opportunities. You can search by Grantmaker, region, funding type, agency, and funding amount at https://www.ejtctac.org/grants



Available Funding Opportunities



Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program *Opening and closing dates vary by region*

The 11 Regional and National Grantmakers work in collaboration with EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights to issue subgrants to community-based nonprofit organizations and other eligible organizations representing disadvantaged communities. Subgrants through the Grantmakers are opening now, with all expected to available in 2025. Use the link to the right to find a Grantmaker near you.





Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) *Closing dates vary by state*

The DWSRF is a financial assistance program to help water systems and states to achieve the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The program is a powerful partnership between EPA and the states. Past projects have provided assistance for:

- · Improving drinking water treatment
- Fixing leaky or old pipes (water distribution)
- Improving source of water supply
- Replacing or constructing finished water storage tanks
- Other infrastructure projects needed to protect public health



More info:

bit.ly/epa-dwsrf1



Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) *Closing dates vary by state*

The CWSRF program is a federal-state partnership that provides low-cost financing to communities for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects, including:

- Municipal wastewater facilities
- Nonpoint source pollution control
- Decentralized wastewater treatment systems
- Stormwater runoff mitigation
- Green infrastructure
- Estuary protection
- Water reuse

More info:
bit.ly/epa-cwsrf1

CWSRF programs function like environmental infrastructure banks by providing low interest loans to eligible recipients for water infrastructure projects. As money is paid back into the state's revolving loan fund, the state makes new loans to other recipients for high priority, water quality activities.

Clean School Bus Rebates Program Closing dates vary by state

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 authorizes the EPA to offer rebates to replace existing school buses with clean and zero-emission models. EPA partners with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (JOET) to provide applicants and funding recipients of the Clean School Bus and Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Programs with free one-on-one *Technical Assistance* that helps ensure their new fleets meet their needs and their key personnel have access to relevant trainings to operate and maintain their new vehicles.

Eligible entities include:

- · Public school districts
- Tribal applicants
- Some third parties





Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia Closes March 14, 2025

The SWIFR program is designed to fund a range of projects that will enable EPA to help states, territories, Tribes, local governments and communities improve and transform their recycling and materials management infrastructure. Each grant is between \$100,000 and \$1,500,000. This opportunity is open only to Tribes and Intertribal Consortia. *Technical Assistance* will be available for both pre- and post-award activities from EPA's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program. Materials and waste streams within scope of this funding opportunity include:

- Municipal solid waste
- Including plastics
- Organics
- Paper
- Metal
- Glass
- Construction and demolition debris







Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) Closes December 31, 2025

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971 included the transfer of 44 million acres to Alaska Native regional and village corporations. Some of these lands became contaminated prior to conveyance (transfer) from a variety of past activities such as fuel storage, power generation, waste handling practices, mining and other activities.

Congress appropriated funding starting in fiscal year 2023 for EPA to establish and implement a grant program to assist Tribal entities in Alaska with addressing contamination on ANCSA lands that were contaminated prior to the time of conveyance. Grants may be used for site assessment and remediation, as well as related community outreach and involvement.

Eligible entities include:

- Alaska Native regional and village corporations
- Federally recognized Tribes in Alaska
- · Alaska Native nonprofit associations
- Inter-tribal consortia comprised of Alaskan tribal entities





EPA Region-Specific Grant Information

The Environmental Protection Agency is organized into 10 regional offices, each responsible for programs in specific states and territories. Find a breakdown of information by EPA region that includes regional funding opportunities, supplemental information, and regional points of contact at EPA.





Recurring Funding Opportunities



Clean School Bus Rebates Program

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 authorizes the EPA to offer rebates to replace existing school buses with clean and zero-emission models. EPA partners with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (JOET) to provide applicants and funding recipients of the Clean School Bus and Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Programs with free one-on-one Technical Assistance that helps ensure their new fleets meet their needs and their key personnel have access to relevant trainings to operate and maintain their new vehicles.



More info:

Eligible entities include:

- Public school districts
- Tribal applicants
- Some third parties



FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

BRIC supports states, local governments, tribes and territories as they work to reduce their hazard risk. These funds may be used for:

- Capability- and capacity-building activities
- Mitigation projects
- Management costs
- Existing project types detailed in the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program

bit.ly/fema-bric Technical Assistance is available from pre-application to grant close-out and may include activities like climate risk assessment and climate adaptation planning. Eligible applicants include states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and federally recognized tribal governments.



Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN) Grants

The WIIN Act addresses, supports and improves America's drinking water infrastructure. Included in the WIIN Act are three drinking water grants that promote public health and the protection of the environment.

Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities

This grant funding will specifically benefit underserved, small, and disadvantaged communities by upgrading infrastructure to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act, reducing exposure to Per- and Polyfluore alled Substances (PEAS), removing sources of lead, and addressing

Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), removing sources of lead, and addressing additional local drinking water challenges. Examples of qualifying project activities include, but are not limited to:

- Water treatment
- Water storage
- Creation of new systems
- Providing households access to drinking water services
- Drinking water contamination response efforts

More info: bit.ly/epawiinsmall

Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Grant Program

The Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Grant Program facilitates the reduction of lead in drinking water in disadvantaged communities through infrastructure and/or treatment improvements or facility remediation in schools and child care facilities. The goal of these projects is to address conditions that contribute to increased concentrations of lead in drinking water. Eligible applicants under this competition include:

- Community water systems
- Water systems located in an area governed by an Indian Tribe
- Non-transient non-community water systems
- Qualified nonprofit organizations servicing a public water system



Voluntary School and Child Care Lead Testing and Reduction

Funding under this program assists educational agencies in voluntary testing for lead contamination in drinking water at schools and child care facilities. Eligibility to apply for and receive funds is limited to:

- The fifty states
- District of Columbia
- Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



More info:

bit.ly/epawiinschool



Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) *Closes November 1, 2024*

The DWSRF is a financial assistance program to help water systems and states to achieve the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The program is a powerful partnership between EPA and the states. Past projects have provided

assistance for:

- Improving drinking water treatment
- Fixing leaky or old pipes (water distribution)
- Improving source of water supply
- Replacing or constructing finished water storage tanks
- Other infrastructure projects needed to protect public health



More info:

bit.ly/epa-dwsrf1



Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)

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- Municipal wastewater facilities
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- · Decentralized wastewater treatment systems
- Stormwater runoff mitigation
- Green infrastructure
- Estuary protection
- Water reuse

CWSRF programs function like environmental infrastructure banks by providing low interest loans to eligible recipients for water infrastructure projects. As money is paid back into the state's revolving loan fund, the state makes new loans to other recipients for high priority, water quality activities.





Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program

The Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability grant program assists public water systems serving underserved, small, and disadvantaged communities in increasing their resilience to natural hazards, while at the same time reducing the impacts of climate change. Eligible applicants for this competitive grant program are public

water systems, water systems located on areas governed by Tribes, and a state, on behalf of an underserved community.

Examples of projects include:

- Conservation of water or the enhancement of water use efficiency
- Enhancement of energy efficiency or the use and generation of renewable energy in the conveyance or treatment of drinking water
- Measures to increase the resilience of the drinking water system to natural hazards, including planning for analytical considerations and climate change





Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

The SWIFR program is designed to fund a range of projects that will enable EPA to help states, territories, Tribes, local governments and communities improve and transform their recycling and materials management infrastructure. Each grant is between \$100,000 and \$1,500,000. This opportunity is open only to Tribes and Intertribal Consortia. *Technical Assistance* will be available for both pre- and post-award activities from EPA's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program. Materials and waste streams within scope of this funding opportunity include:

- Municipal solid waste
- Including plastics
- Organics
- Paper
- Metal
- Glass
- Construction and demolition debris



More info:

bit.ly/epa-swifr



Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants for Political Subdivisions of States and **Territories**

The SWIFR program provides grants to implement the National Recycling Strategy to improve postconsumer materials management and infrastructure, support improvements to local post-consumer materials management and recycling programs; and assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems. Grants range from \$500,000 to \$5,000,000 for the grant period, which may be up to three

years. Eligible entities considered Political Subdivisions of States and Territories include:

- Counties Cities Towns Parishes
- Similar units of governments that have executive and legislative functions to be political subdivisions of states





Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971 included the transfer of 44 million acres to Alaska Native regional and village corporations. Some of these lands became contaminated prior to conveyance (transfer) from a variety of past activities such as fuel storage, power generation, waste handling practices, mining and other activities.

Congress appropriated funding starting in fiscal year 2023 for EPA to establish and implement a grant program to assist Tribal entities in Alaska with addressing contamination on ANCSA lands that were contaminated prior to the time of conveyance. Grants may be used for site assessment and remediation, as well as related community outreach and involvement.

Eligible entities include:

- Alaska Native regional and village corporations
- Federally recognized Tribes in Alaska
- Alaska Native nonprofit associations
- Inter-tribal consortia comprised of Alaskan tribal entities



bit.ly/epa-ancsa



FY25 Guidelines for Brownfield Cleanup Grants

A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, contaminant, controlled substance, petroleum or petroleum product or is mine-scarred land. Find guidelines for Brownfield Cleanup Grants here and information about the different types of brownfields here:

Community-Wide Assessment Grants

Community-Wide Assessment Grants of up to \$500,000 are available for communities that are beginning to address their brownfield challenges, as well as for communities that have ongoing efforts to bring sites into productive reuse. A portion of the assessment grant funding must be used to conduct site assessments.



Assessment Coalition Grants

The EPA's Brownfields Program provides up to \$1,200,000 in funds to empower states, Tribal Nations, communities and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up and reuse brownfield sites. A portion of the Assessment Grant funding must be used to conduct site assessments.



Community-Wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes

This funding opportunity provides funding for states and Tribes to develop inventories of brownfield sites, prioritize sites, conduct community involvement activities, conduct planning, conduct site assessments, develop site-specific cleanup plans and develop reuse plans related to brownfield sites. Applicants may request funding of up to \$2,000,000 to address sites contaminated by hazardous substances and/or petroleum throughout their jurisdiction.



More info:

bit.ly/epaassessgrant

Revolving Loan Fund Grants (RLF)

RLF Grants provide funding for a grant recipient to capitalize a revolving loan fund and to provide loans and subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. When loans are repaid, the loan amount is returned to the fund and re-lent to other borrowers, providing an ongoing source of capital within a community. Applicants may request loans of up to \$1,000,000 to address eligible brownfield cleanups.



More info:

bit.ly/epa-rlf



Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Tribal and Territory Grants

This opportunity incentivizes and accelerates the upgrading or retirement of the nation's legacy diesel engine fleet. Eligible activities include the retrofit or replacement of existing diesel engines, vehicles and equipment with the EPA and California Air Resources Board

technologies. Eligible applicants include:

Federally recognized Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia)

(CARB)-certified engine configurations and verified retrofit and idle reduction

Alaska Native Villages

Government agencies of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality



More info:

bit.ly/epa-dera



Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants Program

The P2 Grants Program funds state and Tribal programs to provide Technical Assistance to businesses to help them develop and adopt source reduction practices — also known as pollution prevention or P2. These practices aim to reduce or eliminate the use and release of hazardous substances, water, energy and other raw materials, thereby also reducing business costs. EPA's Pollution Prevention Grants Program offers several funding opportunities:

• Pollution Prevention Grant

This grant provides states and Tribes with the means to offer technical assistance to businesses, helping them develop and implement P2 practices. The grant requires a 50% match and is available every two years. The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 competition closed in May of 2024. Federally recognized Tribes and intertribal consortia that receive a P2 grant award and place the approved workplan into a performance partnership agreement will have their cost share/match requirement reduced from 50% to zero percent.



More info:

bit.ly/epappgrant

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Pollution Prevention Grant

This grant supports states and Tribes in offering businesses technical assistance for P2 practices, funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This grant does not have a match requirement and is available every two years. The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 competition closed in May of 2024.



• Pollution Prevention Grant - Environmental Justice in Communities

This grant provides states and Tribes with the means to offer technical assistance to businesses, focusing on improving human health and the environment in disadvantaged communities. This grant does not have a match requirement and is available every two years. The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 competition closed in June of 2023.



Pollution Prevention Grant - Environmental Justice Through Safer and More Sustainable Products

This grant encourages heightened supply, demand and use of safer and more sustainable products, including those certified by EPA's Safer Choice label. This grant does not have a match requirement and is available every two years. The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 competition closed in June of 2023.



• Source Reduction Assistance Grant

This grant funds projects that support the research, education and training of innovative source reduction techniques for states, Tribes, local governments and nonprofit organizations. This grant requires a 5% match and is available every two years. The Fiscal Year 2024-2025 competition closed in April of 2024.





Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program

The Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants program provides funding for the planning, design and construction of critical stormwater infrastructure projects in communities. EPA allocates grant funding to states, the District of Columbia, and territories, which then provide sub-awards to eligible entities for projects that address infrastructure needs for combined sewer overflows (CSOs), sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), and stormwater management.

More info:

bit.ly/epamunicipal

The federal share for awards shall be 80% of the total award. The state grant recipients are required to provide a non-federal cost share/match for the remaining 20% of the total award, unless reduced by EPA after verifying that the sub-award will support rural (population of 10,000 of less) and/or financially distressed communities as defined by the state.

Technical Assistance is available through WaterTA, which can help applicants prepare and develop materials for financing a project through the CWSRF and OSG.



Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program

The WIFIA Program is a federal loan program operated by EPA headquarters that provides supplemental, flexible, low-cost credit assistance to public and private borrowers for all types of wastewater, drinking water and stormwater projects. The WIFIA program offers long-term loans that can be combined with Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund assistance, municipal bonds, and federal and state grants to help communities deliver more critical water infrastructure projects for a lower cost with less impact on rate payers. The WIFIA program has funding available on an ongoing basis.

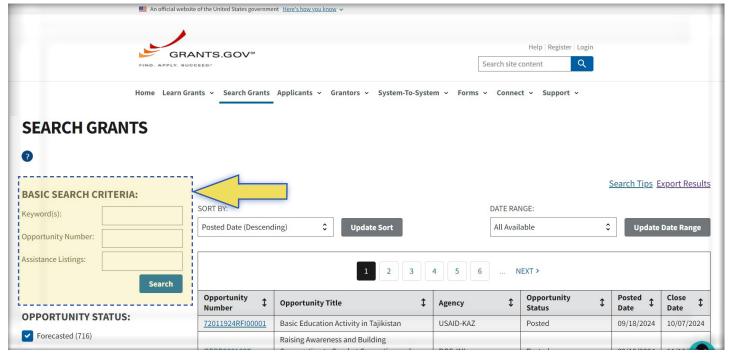


The WIFIA program offers broad eligibility and can provide financing to a variety of public and private credit-worthy borrowers, including:

- Local, state and tribal government entities
- Partnerships and joint ventures
- Corporations and trusts
- Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs

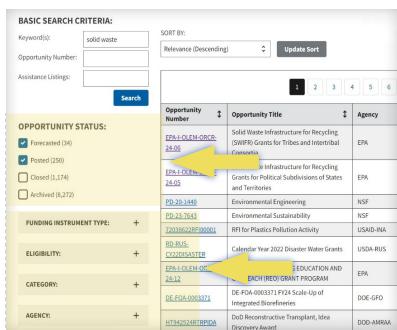
Choosing your Search Terms

- Go to Grants.gov/search-grants
- You can search by the Opportunity Number for a grant, if you know it, or by Keyword(s). To search by Keyword(s), enter search terms relevant to your subject in the "Keyword(s)" box. For example, search terms to locate a grant for a recycling program could include recycling, solid waste, recycling infrastructure, etc.



Refining your Search

- After entering your search criteria in the left-hand column, the results chart will show all of the potentially relevant "Posted" opportunities across the federal government that are currently open for application, as well as those listed as "Forecasted", as the default.
- Use the additional options in the lefthand column to further narrow your search criteria by:
 - Funding Instrument Type
 - Eligibility
 - Category
 - Agency



Sorting your Results

- After limiting your search criteria to rule out opportunities that may not be applicable to you or your community, your search results can then be organized by clicking on the arrow at the top of each column to re-sort by column header:
 - **Opportunity Number** Re-sorts the results in alphabetical and numerical order. This is helpful if you have an opportunity number you want to find quickly.
 - **Opportunity Title** Re-sorts the results alphabetically by the name of the opportunity being offered for application, which is often your first clue as to the focus of the NOFO. This is most helpful if you have an idea of the grant name already or are looking for multiple, similarly named opportunities.
 - **Agency** Re-sorts the results alphabetically by agency name. This is helpful if you know you want to apply for funding from a specific government agency or department.
 - **Opportunity Status** Re-sorts the results alphabetically by status: Posted, Forecasted, Closed or Archived. This is helpful if you are looking for opportunities with a specific status (usually "Posted"), so that you know if that grant is currently open for applications.
 - **Posted Date** Re-sorts the results by date, either in ascending or descending order. This is helpful if you know roughly when a NOFO was opened for applications or if you are looking for the most recently posted opportunities.
 - Close Date Re-sorts the results by date, either in ascending or descending order. This is
 extremely helpful if you have a limited team with which to write an application. Choosing a
 closing date that is further out can give you much needed time to put your application together.



Choose a Funding Opportunity to Explore

• To learn more about any opportunity, click on the hyperlinked "Opportunity Number" in the first column of the results table.



Get the Details on a selected **Funding Opportunity**

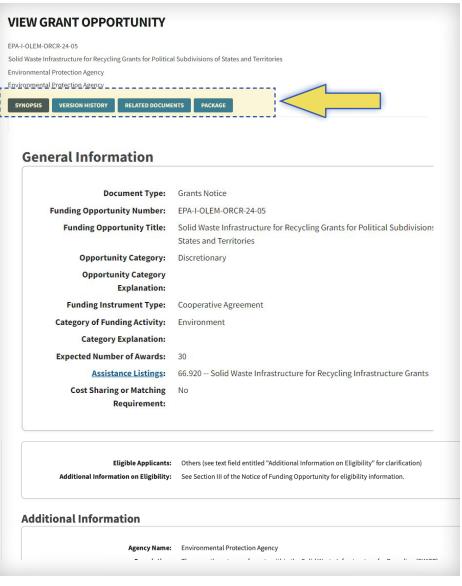
- On the blue "Synopsis" tab, you can view more indepth information about the selected opportunity, including a short summary, expected number of awards to be made under that opportunity, any cost sharing requirements, eligibility information and contact information for the granter.
- On the blue "Related Documents" tab, you will find links to documents like the full funding announcement, updates made to the NOFO and other supporting files. Always ensure you are viewing the most recent version of the NOFO as application requirements can and do change during the open application window.

On the blue "Package" tab,

you are able to preview

the application package requirements, including download links for all of the

mandatory and optional forms needed.



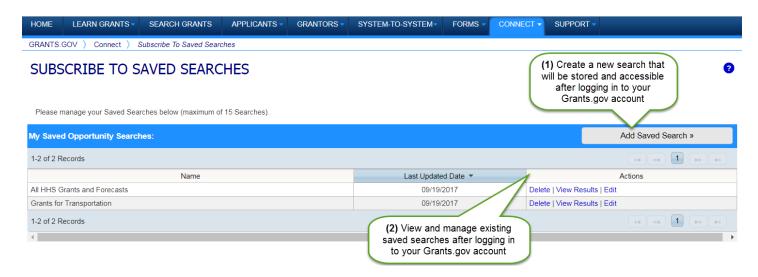
Download Grant Opportunity NOFO and Related Files

- Expand any folder that has an arrow next to the folder name to view the documents within that folder.
- Click on the hyperlinked file names to download the documents you want and save them locally to your computer so you can continue to refer to them. Make sure you check the column for "Last Updated Date/Time" so you have the latest copy of every document.
- To receive updates on funding opportunities you plan to apply to, you can click on the orange "Subscribe" button. When a new document is uploaded or changes are made to the NOFO, you will receive a notification through your Grants.gov account. An applicant account in Grants.gov is required, but creating your account is free.



Create Alerts for Funding Opportunities

- Receive customized email alerts from Grants.gov on upcoming funding opportunities using expanded criteria to create saved searches. To subscribe to search notifications, users must first create a free account on Grants.gov.
- To create a new saved search and view search results, login to Grants.gov and click the "Connect" tab to access the Connect Center. Then click on the "Subscribe to Saved Searches" link under the Manage Subscriptions header. Choose "Add Saved Search" and enter a title for this new saved search. Choose your specific search criteria using the fields in the "Enter Saved Search Criteria" section and then save your search.
- To view the results of any existing saved search, simply click the "View Results" link in the Actions
 column. From here you can choose to edit or delete any saved searches you want to expand or
 remove.



The above image is used courtesy of Grants.gov



For up-to-date information about all EPA funding opportunities, visit <u>Grants.gov</u>

