



Performance Partnership Grants

Popular Name

PPGs

Department/Ind. Agency

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Assistance Listing Number

66.605

Overview

Objectives

Fostering EPA's partnership with the States and Tribes is critical to accelerating environmental outcomes. Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs) are the cornerstone of the National Environmental Performance Partnership System (NEPPS), which aims to strengthen partnerships and build a results-based management system. PPGs allow States and Tribes to combine eligible categorical State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) into a single grant with a single budget. PPGs can reduce administrative transaction costs, provide flexibility to direct resources toward environmental priorities, and support cross-media approaches and initiatives. EPA's overarching goal is to optimize the leveraging power of PPGs to focus strategically on the joint priorities of EPA, States, and Tribes. PPGs do not include any funding in addition to the funding allocated to the PPG-eligible categorical STAG programs. For a current list of grant programs eligible for inclusion in a PPG, please visit www.epa.gov/NEPPS. Funding Priorities - Fiscal Year 2022: EPA headquarters and the Regional offices will give priority to flexibility and opportunities to work collaboratively with the States and Tribes. The Agency will continue to focus on achieving its goals for implementing NEPPS and Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs) which serve to: (1) strengthen partnerships between EPA, the States, Tribes and interstate agencies through joint planning, priority setting efficient and effective management of federal-state resources; (2) provide States, Tribes, and interstate agencies with flexibility to direct resources where they are needed to address environmental and public health priorities; (3) link program activities more effectively with environmental and public health goals and

environmental outcomes; (4) foster implementation of innovative approaches such as pollution prevention, ecosystem management, and community-based environmental protection strategies; and (5) provide savings by streamlining administrative requirements.

Examples of Funded Projects

Fiscal Year 2022: Most states have unique environmental priorities and program implementation needs. Each EPA-state partnership negotiation takes into account the particular capacities, needs, and interests of that state. PPGs have allowed States to take advantage of administrative and program efficiencies and innovations to achieve greater environmental and program results. States and Tribes have used PPGs to address critical emergencies and unplanned events and have used PPG flexibility to overcome periodic budget needs or high program demands in specific programs. States and Tribes have used PPGs to implement multi-program initiatives and innovations that impact many environmental programs. They also have taken advantage of streamlined administrative procedures to make grant processes more efficient. PPGs have allowed Tribes to develop and implement environmental programs in situations where it would have been more difficult using categorical grants.

Assistance Listing Description

A Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) allows a state or tribal recipient to combine funds from two or more categorical environmental program grants. A PPG requires only a single application, work plan, and budget. Once funds are awarded in a PPG, the recipient can direct the funds as needed to achieve work plan commitments and does not need to account for funds in accordance with their original program sources. Programs eligible for inclusion in a PPG are funded through the categorical line item within EPA's State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) appropriation and include: (1) Air Pollution Control (Clean Air Act [CAA] Section 105); (2) Water Pollution Control (Clean Water Act [CWA] Section 106); (3) Nonpoint Source Management (CWA Section 319); (4) Wetlands Program Development (CWA Section 104(b)(3)); (5) Public Water System Supervision (Safe Drinking Water Act [SDWA] Sections 1443(a) and 1451(a)(3)); (6) Underground Water Source Protection (SDWA Section 1443(b)); (7) Hazardous Waste Management State Program Support (CFDA 66.801); (8) Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes (CFDA 66.812) (9) Underground Storage Tank (Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 2007(f)(2)); (10) Radon Assessment and Mitigation (Toxic Substances Control Act [TSCA] Section 306); (11) Lead-based Paint Activities (TSCA Section 404(g)); (12) Toxic Substances Compliance Monitoring (TSCA Section 28); (13) Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (Pollution Prevention Act [PPA] Section 6605); (14) Consolidated Pesticide Enforcement Cooperative Agreements (CFDA 66.700); (15) Environmental Information Network Exchange Grants (Consolidated Appropriations Resolution for the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies of 2003, Public Law 108-7; Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, Public Law 108-199); (16) Brownfields State and Tribal Response Program Grants (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 [CERCLA], Section 128(a), as amended; Public Law 107-118; Small Business

Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act); (17) General Assistance Program (GAP) Grants to Indian Tribes (Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992; only eligible Tribes can propose to include these funds in a PPG application); (18) Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act (Public Law 106-284); (19) Multipurpose Grants to States and Tribes, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-113).

Authorizations

Title Appropriations Act of 1996, Public Law 104-134

Title Appropriations Act of 1998, Public Law 105-65

Financial Information

Obligation(s)	FY 21	FY 22 (est.)	FY 23 (est.)
Formula Grants Total	\$485,200,000	Not Separately Identifiable	Not Separately Identifiable
Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs), assistance listing 66.605, are a funding vehicle rather than a funding source. PPGs allow entities with two or more grants from eligible STAG categorical grant programs to combine those sources of funding into a PPG.	\$485,200,000	Not Separately Identifiable	Not Separately Identifiable
Totals	\$485,200,000	Not Separately Identifiable	Not Separately Identifiable

Range and Average of Financial Assistance

There is no limit for PPGs. The amounts awarded via PPGs varies based on how many programs a recipient chooses to combine in a PPG and how many years the PPG remains active. While PPGs can range from \$25,000 to \$20 million in award amounts, the average PPG amount is about \$5 million.

Accomplishments

Not Applicable.

Account Identification

68-0103-0-1-304-State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

Criteria for Applying

Types of Assistance

A - Formula Grants, B - Project Grants

Credentials and Documentation

No Credentials or Documentation are required.

2 CFR 200, Subpart E - Cost Principles applies to this program.

Applicant Eligibility

Designations

Interstate, Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Governments, U.S. Territories and possessions, State

All States, interstate agencies, U.S. territories, the District of Columbia, and federally recognized Indian Tribes eligible to receive more than one of the 19 categorical grant programs referred are eligible to apply for PPGs. Any duly authorized State or tribal entity that currently receives or is eligible to receive EPA categorical program grants may request a PPG for the funds it administers. This may include agencies other than environmental agencies (for example, agricultural and health agencies), where authorized by state or tribal law.

Beneficiary Eligibility

Designations

Interstate, State, Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Governments, U.S. Territories, Anyone/general public

States, U.S. territories, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, and interstate agencies.

Length and Time Phasing of Assistance

The terms of the PPG shall be determined during pre-application negotiations and at the time of the award. Applicants may choose to submit either annual or multi-year work plans and project periods. Budget periods will be for 12 months with the applicant having the flexibility to select, in consultation with the Regional Administrator, the specific start and end date for the budget period. Grant awards are made after review and approval of the application. Grantees are reimbursed for actual expenses based on submissions in financial status reports. Method of awarding/releasing assistance: Annually.

Use of Assistance

Designations

Environment (water, air, solid waste, pesticides, radiation)

PPGs are a type of modified block grant, where recipients may combine funds from categorical grants to accomplish their joint and several purposes, so long as recipients meet program requirements for each categorical grant combined into the PPG. Grant recipients and sub-recipients are encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text messaging while driving company-owned or -rented vehicles or government-owned vehicles, or while driving privately-owned vehicles when on official government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the government. Grant recipients and sub-recipients are encouraged to conduct initiatives of the type described in section 3(a) of the Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving Executive Order that was signed on October 1, 2009.

Applying for Assistance

Deadlines

Contact the headquarters or regional location, as appropriate for application deadlines.

Preapplication Coordination

Preapplication coordination is required. Environmental impact information is not required for this program. This program is eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," applies to this assistance listing when proposed Federal financial assistance involves land use planning or implementation of restoration, remediation or other projects requiring construction. EPA financial assistance programs and activities subject to intergovernmental review that are subject to review under State single point of contact procedures are identified at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-financial-assistance-programs-subject-executive-order-12372-and-section-204>. Applicants for programs or activities subject to Intergovernmental Review that are not subject to State single point of contact review must provide directly affected State, areawide, regional, and local entities at least 60 days to review their application following notification by EPA that the application has been selected for funding as provided by 40 CFR 29.8(a) and (c). Applicants interested in pursuing PPGs should coordinate with their appropriate EPA regional office to develop a PPG through joint negotiations.

Application Procedures

2 CFR 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards applies to this program.

Applicants will negotiate the content of their PPG with their EPA regional office and submit an application for the PPG based on these negotiations. Applicants for PPGs must submit an "Application for Federal Assistance: State and Local Non-Construction Programs," Standard Form 424, including the required supporting documents. Applicants, except in limited circumstances approved by the Agency, must submit all initial applications for funding through Grant.gov.

Criteria for Selecting Proposals

Applicants must meet selection criteria for the categorical grants to be combined in the PPG.

Award Procedure

Grant applications are reviewed by the appropriate EPA regional office, and if approved, awarded by the Regional Administrator. If an applicant is selected for a competitive award, the applicant will work with the EPA regional office to add those competitive grant funds to the PPG if requested by the state. The workplan and supporting documentation that were the basis of the competitive award also will be added to the PPG.

Date Range for Approval/Disapproval

From 60 to 90 days. Approximately 60 days.

Renewals

Generally, EPA may sometimes choose to either fully or incrementally fund awarded grants and cooperative agreements. Approval of subsequent funding increments and extensions are dependent on satisfactory project progress, continued relevance of the project to EPA's priorities, availability of funds, and Agency policy on the competitive grant process.

Appeals

Disputes will be resolved under 2 CFR 1500 Subpart E, as applicable.

Compliance Requirements

Policy Requirements

The following 2CFR policy requirements apply to this assistance listing:

Subpart B, General provisions

Subpart C, Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Awards

Subpart D, Post Federal; Award Requirements

Subpart E, Cost Principles

Subpart F, Audit Requirements

The following 2CFR policy requirements are excluded from coverage under this assistance listing:

Not Applicable

Additional Information:

Reports

Program Reports: EPA includes reporting requirements for grants and cooperative agreements in the terms and conditions of the agreements. Agreements may require quarterly, interim and final progress reports, and financial and equipment reports. Reporting requirements are also identified in the Uniform Grants Guidance 2 CFR parts 200 and 1500, and 40 CFR Part 35, Subparts A and B. Refer to the assistance listings for the individual STAG program grants eligible for inclusion in PPGs . The list can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/ocir/national-environmental-performance-partnership-system-nepps>.

Cash Reports: Refer to the assistance listings for the individual STAG program grants eligible for inclusion in PPGs.

Progress Reports: Refer to the assistance listings for the individual STAG program grants eligible for inclusion in PPGs.

Expenditure Reports: Refer to the assistance listing for the individual STAG program grants eligible for inclusion in PPGs.

Performance Reports: Refer to the program descriptions for the individual STAG program grants eligible for inclusion in PPGs.

Audits

In accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements, nonfederal entities that expend financial assistance of \$750,000 or more in Federal awards will have a single or a program-specific audit conducted for that year. Non-Federal entities that expend

less than \$750,000 a year in Federal awards are exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in 2 CFR 200.503

Grants and cooperative agreements are subject to inspections and audits by the Comptroller General of the United States, the EPA Office of Inspector General, other EPA staff, or any authorized representative of the Federal government. Reviews by the EPA Project Officer and the Grants Specialist may occur each year.

Records

Recipients must keep financial records, including all documents supporting entries on accounting records and to substantiate changes in grants available to personnel authorized to examine EPA recipients grants and cooperative agreements records. Recipients must maintain all records until 3 years from the date of submission of final expenditure reports as required by 2 CFR 200.334. If questions, such as those raised because of audits remain following the 3-year period, recipients must retain records until the matter is completely resolved.

Regulations, Guidelines, and Literature

2 CFR 200 and 1500 (EPA Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards); 40 CFR Part 33 (Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in United States Environmental Protection Agency Programs); 40 CFR Part 35 SubPart A (Environmental Program Grants) or SubPart B (Environmental Program Grants for Tribes). The National Program Guides (NPGs) for the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations sets multi-year goals and objectives and highlights key policies and procedures for the National Environmental Performance Partnership System. See the NPGs at the following website: <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/national-program-guidances-npgs>.

Formula and Matching Requirements

Statutory formula is not applicable to this assistance listing.

Matching Requirements:

Percent: Other

PPGs are a funding vehicle rather than a funding source; there is no appropriation or specific allocation for PPGs. An applicant for a Performance Partnership Grant must provide a non-federal cost share that is not less than the sum of the minimum non-federal cost share required under each of the environmental programs that are combined in the Performance Partnership Grant. When an environmental program included in the Performance Partnership Grant has both a matching and maintenance of effort requirement, the greater of the two amounts will be used to calculate the minimum cost share attributed to that environmental program. State PPG recipients should calculate a single, composite minimum cost share (based on the match or

maintenance of effort requirements of each categorical grants included in the PPG) for each of their PPGs. For Tribal PPG recipients, there are no cost share or maintenance of effort requirements. EPA has a class exception from 40 CFR 35.536 in place that waives the required cost share from tribal and intertribal consortia PPGs.

Matching requirements are mandatory.

This program has MOE requirements, see funding agency for further details. Additional Information: Refer to the assistance listings of the 19 environmental program grants eligible for inclusion in a PPG. The list can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/ocir/national-environmental-performance-partnership-system-nepps>.

Contact Information

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