



U.S. EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program: Implementation Grants General Competition

Notice of Funding Opportunity

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
October 31, 2023

For More CPRG Program Implementation Grants Information: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/cprg-implementation-grants>

Webinar Agenda and Discussion Topics

- What is the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program Implementation Grants?
- How is the CPRG Implementation Grant Related to the CPRG Planning Grant?
- EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRG): Implementation Grants General Competition – Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Request for Application
- Overview of the (NOFO) for CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition.
- Where to Find More Information on the NOFO for CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition.
- Polling Question.
- DEQ CPRG Planning Grant Activities Relative to the Implementation Grants General Competition
- Questions?

What is the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program: Implementation Grants

- The 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) established the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program that provides funds in two distinct but related phases:
 - Planning grants: \$250 million for states, U.S. territories, municipalities, air pollution control agencies, tribes, and groups thereof to develop plans to reduce greenhouse gases (GHGs). The Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) is the first deliverable due under the CPRG planning grants.
 - Implementation grants: \$4.6 billion for competitive grants to eligible applicants to implement GHG reduction programs, policies, projects, and measures (collectively referred to as “GHG reduction measures,” or “measures”) identified in a PCAP developed under a CPRG planning grant.

How is the CPRG Implementation Grant Related to the CPRG Planning Grant?

- The Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), which includes a list of implementation ready “measures” to reduce GHG emissions and/or enhance carbon storage is directly linked to the CPRG Competitive Implementation Grants:
 - Those entities eligible to apply directly to EPA for a CPRG Implementation grant can only apply for measures that are included in an applicable PCAP submitted to EPA by March 1, 2024.
 - An applicable PCAP is one that geographically covers the entity and contains GHG reduction measures that can be implemented by the eligible entity.

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRG): Implementation Grants General Competition – Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Request for Applications

- On September 20, 2023, EPA released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) requesting applications **from states, municipalities, tribes, tribal consortia, and territories for the Implementation grants general competition.**
- EPA anticipates grant applications for the following types of **measures**:
 - New, independent GHG reduction measures funded by CPRG alone;
 - Expansions of ongoing GHG reduction measures funded partly by CPRG; and,
 - New GHG reduction measures needing CPRG funding to complete total implementation
- **Key Dates for the General Competition:**
 - February 1, 2024, Optional Notice of Intent to Apply Due
 - March 15, 2024, Deadline for Submitting Questions
 - April 1, 2024, NOFO Closes and Applications Due by 11:59 PM (EDT)
 - July 2024, Anticipated Notification of Awards
 - October 2024, Anticipated Award

Examples of GHG Reduction Measures by Economic Sector

- **Transportation Sector**
 - Increase the share of electric light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles, and expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- **Electric Power Sector**
 - Streamlining permitting for renewable energy projects
- **Buildings Sector**
 - Incentive programs for implementation of end-use energy efficiency measures in existing government-owned, commercial, and residential buildings
- **Industrial Sector**
 - Greening of data centers (e.g., reliable low or zero emissions fueled emergency back-up generators)
- **Waste, Water, and Sustainable Materials Management Sector**
 - Reduce methane emissions from landfills and wastewater treatment facilities
- **Agricultural Sector**
 - Climate Smart Agricultural practices
- **Carbon Removal Measures**
 - Restoration of degraded lands (e.g., brownfields, mine reclamation lands) to enhance carbon sequestration

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: Funding & Expected Awards

- For General Competition
 - Total Amount of funding Available: Approximately \$4.3 billion.
 - EPA anticipates awarding approximately 30 to 115 grants ranging between \$2 million and \$500 million.
 - Grants expected to be awarded within 5 tiers, with funds targeted for each tier.
 - Total amount requested will determine tier the application will be evaluated.

Tier	Grant Ranges	Funds Targeted for Each Tier	Anticipated Number of Grants to be Awarded
Tier A	\$200,000,000 – \$500,000,000	\$2 billion	4-10
Tier B	\$100,000,000 – \$199,999,999	\$1.3 billion	6-13
Tier C	\$50,000,000 – \$99,999,999	\$0.6 billion	6-12
Tier D	\$10,000,000 – \$49,999,999	\$0.3 billion	6-30
Tier E	\$2,000,000 – \$9,999,999	\$0.1 billion	10-50

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: Eligibility Information

- **A state** can apply for funding to implement measures included in its state PCAP. Eligible state entities include:
 - Lead organizations for state CPRG planning grants
 - Other state agencies (including state air pollution control agencies), departments, or other executive branch-level offices
- **A municipality** can apply for funding to implement measures included in an applicable state, MSA, or territorial PCAP. Eligible applicants are:
 - Lead organizations for MSA CPRG planning grants
 - Other municipal agencies (including local air pollution control agencies), departments, or other municipal government offices
 - Councils of government, metropolitan planning commissions, or other regional organizations comprised of multiple municipalities
- **A Tribe or Tribal consortium** can apply for funding to implement measures included in an applicable tribal, state, MSA, or territorial PCAP. Eligible applicants are:
 - Lead organizations for tribal CPRG planning grants
 - Other tribal agencies (including tribal air pollution control agencies), departments, or other tribal government offices or tribal consortia
- **Each Territory** can apply for funding to implement measures included in its PCAP. Eligible entities include:
 - Lead organizations for CPRG planning grants for one of the territories
 - Other territorial agencies (including territorial air pollution control agencies), departments, or other territorial government offices
- **A Coalition** consisting of two or more eligible applicants, including tribal consortia and coalitions of agencies from states, municipalities, tribes, and/or territories) can apply to jointly implement measures included in an applicable state, MSA, tribal, or territorial PCAP.

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be rated using a point system based on a total of 250 possible points.

- 1. Overall Project Summary and Approach (45 points)**
 - a) (20 points) Description of GHG Reduction Measures
 - b) (10 points) Demonstration of Funding Need
 - c) (15 points) Transformative Impact
- 2. Impact of GHG Reduction Measures (60 points)**
 - a) (20 points) Magnitude of GHG Reductions from 2025 through 2030
 - b) (10 points) Magnitude of GHG Reductions from 2025 through 2050
 - c) (15 points) Cost Effectiveness of GHG Reductions
 - d) (15 points) Documentation of GHG Reduction Assumptions
- 3. Environmental Results – Outputs, Outcomes, and Performance Measures (30 points)**
 - a) (10 points) Expected Outputs and Outcomes
 - b) (10 points) Performance Measures and Plan
 - c) (10 points) Authorities, Implementation Timeline, and Milestones

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: Evaluation Criteria

4. **Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities (35 points)**
 - a) (25 points) Community Benefits
 - b) (10 points) Community Engagement
5. **Job Quality (5 points)**
6. **Programmatic Capability and Past Performance (30 Points)**
 - a) (10 points) Past Performance
 - b) (10 points) Reporting Requirements
 - c) (10 points) Staff Expertise
7. **Budget and Timely Expenditure of Grant Funds (45 points)**
 - a) (20 points) Budget Detail
 - b) (15 points) Expenditure of Awarded Funds
 - c) (10 points) Reasonableness of Cost

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: Review and Selection Process

- Applications will first be evaluated against the threshold factors listed in Section III.C. of this NOFO. Only those applications that meet all threshold factors will be evaluated by a review panel using the evaluation criteria highlighted on the previous slides.
- Each eligible application will be given a numerical score and will be rank-ordered by the review panel against other applications in the same funding tier.
- EPA intends to make awards to top ranked applications in each tier.
- EPA anticipates awarding no more than two grants to applicants at the same level of government within a single jurisdiction (e.g., a single state, municipality, tribal area, or territory).
- EPA anticipates it will announce selection decisions by July 2024 and tentatively plans to issue awards by October 2024.

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: For More Information

- EPA CPRG Implementation Grant Webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/cprg-implementation-grants>
- Submit your questions on the CPRG implementation grants competitions to CPRG@epa.gov
- Sign up for updates about the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/forms/stay-connected-climate-pollution-reduction-grants-program>

DEQ CPRG Planning Grant Activities Relative to the CPRG Implement Grants General Competition

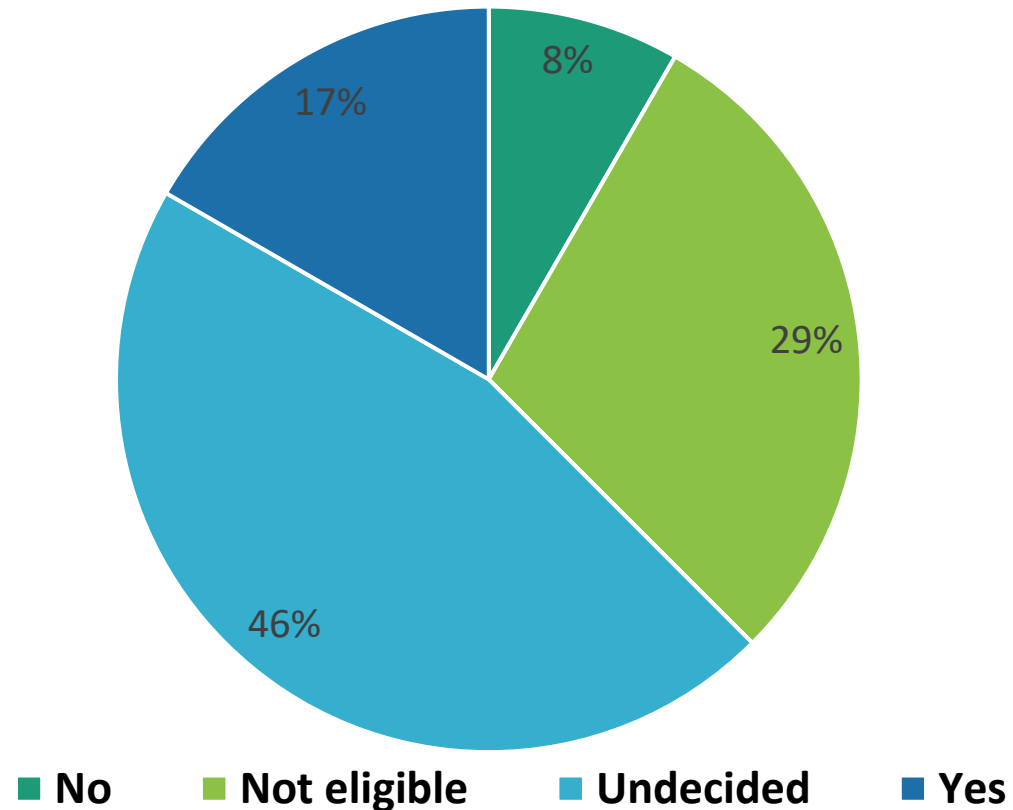
- Engaging with disadvantaged communities to gather input on priority GHG reduction sectors, measures to reduce GHG emissions, and priority benefits of GHG reduction measures.
- Meeting and coordinating with the three Virginia MSAs that also received CPRG planning grants to capture measures included their PCAPs.
- Engaging and coordinating with other eligible entities on measures to include in the state PCAP.

Get Involved

- DEQ's dedicated CPRG webpage contains planning process information and resource links and is online at:
<https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/air/greenhouse-gases/climate-pollution-reduction-grant>
- Send your questions, comments, and suggestions to DEQ's CPRG dedicated email address: CPRG@deq.virginia.gov

CPRG Implementation Grants General Competition: Polling Question and Results

Do you or will you have a project ready to apply for an EPA CPRG
Implementation grant?



Thank You – Questions?