

Sponsor/Title: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Technical Assistance and Training for Rural, Small and Tribal Municipalities and Wastewater Treatment Systems

External Link: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/362798>

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OW-OWM-26-01

Submission Limitation per Institution: One (1) per Priority Area

[Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing](#)

Internal Expression of Interest Deadline: 2026-07-01

Sponsor Application Deadline: 2026-08-14

Summary: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is soliciting applications under the authority of the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 104(b)(8) to provide Technical Assistance and Training for Rural, Small and Tribal Municipalities and Wastewater Treatment Systems. The program supports small, rural, and Tribal communities' efforts to identify water challenges, develop plans, build technical, financial, and managerial capacity, comply with CWA requirements, and access water infrastructure funding.

Through this Notice of Funding Opportunity under the Clean Water Act, EPA will achieve greater protection of public health and the environment through an increase in trained water sector personnel, access to funding and financing for wastewater treatment facilities, and Clean Water Act compliance. This action advances the Administration's priorities, including to Make America Healthy Again, by improving water quality and reducing exposure risks, and enabling responsible economic growth for small, rural, and tribal communities through improved wastewater infrastructure. In partnership with States, Tribes, and local governments and grounded in sound science and the law, EPA will deliver cleaner water, stronger infrastructure, and long-term environmental stewardship for all Americans

The proposed activities support the [Agency's Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative's](#) Pillar 1: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American. Priority Areas identified in this opportunity are:

1. Technical assistance and training for rural, small, and Tribal municipalities for planning, developing and acquisition of financing/funding for eligible projects and activities.
 - Technical assistance and training for rural, small, and Tribal publicly owned treatment works and decentralized wastewater systems to help improve water quality and to achieve and maintain compliance.
2. Technical assistance and training focused specifically on Tribes for planning, developing and acquisition of financing/funding, to help improve water quality and achieve and maintain compliance, and/or to support emerging contaminants project development.
3. Information dissemination, technical assistance and training focused specifically on decentralized wastewater treatment systems to support planning, development and acquisition of financing.

Eligible entities for this grant program include nonprofit organizations and institutions of higher education that can provide technical assistance and training to rural, small, and Tribal municipalities, publicly owned wastewater treatment works, and decentralized wastewater treatment systems.

Assisting systems with their technical, managerial, and financial capacity to achieve long-term compliance is a key priority for the Agency. Infrastructure construction projects such as repairing water or sewer lines, adding new equipment, or upgrading, retrofitting, or rehabilitating existing equipment are not eligible for funding under this announcement.

Internal Application Requirements: Upload the following information to the Google Form at <https://forms.gle/ht8pJL6R9aYWvFmL6> by the internal deadline:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title
- Specify which Priority Area you are applying for
- All ND Collaborators:
 - For each ND Collaborator listed, include name, department or unit, and specific role for this project in three sentences (maximum).
- Project Summary: Three (3) pages (maximum) addressing the following Review Criteria as outlined on pages 25-7 in the NOFO.
 - Evaluation Criteria
 - Environmental Results and Measuring Progress

Questions: Contact Notre Dame Research Limited Submissions at limited@nd.edu.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the internal expression of interest deadline.

Internal applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.