


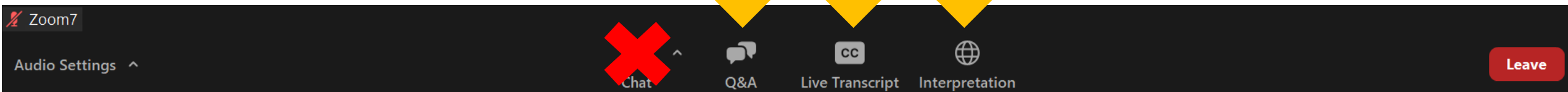
Welcome!

- Welcome! Please select your preferred language by clicking on the interpretation icon at the bottom of your screen. (English speakers must also select English.)
- ¡Bienvenido! Si necesita interpretación, seleccione el idioma que prefiera haciendo clic en el botón de interpretación situado en la parte inferior de la pantalla. 

Today's session will be recorded and posted on EPA's website.

Zoom logistics

- Attendee microphones and videos have been turned off to reserve bandwidth.
- Closed captions are available by clicking the "Live Transcript" icon in your control panel.
- Submit questions through the Q&A box on the control panel.
- The chat function has been turned off.
- Email meetings@erg.com with any technical difficulties.





Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Request for Applications

Recycling Education and Outreach Grants

Resource Conservation and Sustainability Division
U.S. EPA Office of Resource Conservation & Recovery





Agenda

- Introduction and Goals for the Webinar
- Funding Opportunity Overview
- Eligible Entities
- Requirements
- Evaluating Applications
- Resources
- Questions and Answers





Introduction

Goals of the Webinar

1

Provide an overview of the Recycling Education and Outreach funding opportunity

2

Clarify information and answer questions about the scope, requirements, evaluation criteria and overall process



Circular Economy Strategy Series

 **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)**

 Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants

 **Recycling Education and Outreach Grants**

 Battery Collection Best Practices and Labeling Guidelines



- Objectives:**
- A. Improve Markets for Recycling Commodities
 - B. Increase Collection and Improve Materials Management Infrastructure
 - C. Reduce Contamination in the Recycled Materials Stream
 - D. Enhance Policies to Support Recycling
 - E. Standardize Measurement and Increase Data Collection

EPA is establishing a 10-year vision that embraces circularity, sustainable materials management, addresses climate change, and environmental justice.



Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program



SWIFR Grant Program

Grants
for Political Subdivisions

Grants for Tribes and
Intertribal Consortia
Coming Soon!

Grants for States
and Territories

Webinars: December 5, 7, 13, 19

Webinars:
December 1, 19 & January 3



Environmental Justice

Pg. 7 of the
RFA

The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

- Fair treatment means no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental and commercial operations or policies.
- Meaningful involvement means people have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health; the public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision; community concerns will be considered in the decision-making process; and decision makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

For more information on Environmental Justice at EPA, visit our website:

<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>





Funding Opportunity Overview

Scope of Work

Pg. 10-11 of
the RFA

All projects must encourage the collection of recycled materials that are sold to an existing or developing market **AND** must achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- 1. Inform the public** about residential or community recycling programs;
- 2. Provide information about the recycled materials** that are accepted as part of a residential or community recycling program that provides for the separate collection of residential solid waste from recycled material; **and/or**
- 3. Increase collection rates** and **decrease contamination** in residential and community recycling programs.

Note: projects may also include outreach encouraging the prevention, reduction, or diversion of waste and improving the reuse, repair, and remanufacture of materials *before* materials enter the recycling system.



Type of Work

Pg. 10-11 of
the RFA

- Applications **may** include (but are not limited to) projects that fund:
 - public service announcements;
 - door-to-door education and outreach campaigns;
 - social media and digital outreach;
 - an advertising campaign on recycling awareness;
 - the development and dissemination of
 - (i) a toolkit for a municipal and commercial recycling program;
 - (ii) information on the importance of quality in the recycling stream;
 - (iii) information on the economic and environmental benefits of recycling; and
 - (iv) information on what happens to materials after the materials are placed into a residential or community recycling program;
 - businesses recycling outreach;
 - bin, cart, and other receptacle labeling and signs;
 - community recycling ambassador education programs or training of trainer programs
 - other activities as per the request for applications



Prohibition on Use of Funds

Pg. 20 of the
RFA

- EPA funds (directly paid by the EPA or from the recipient's cost-share) cannot be used to design nor administer the collection of identical information from 10 or more parties, and EPA personnel may not participate in such activities.
 - Reasonable costs for analyzing and publishing the independently collected information are allowable to the extent authorized in the EPA approved budget for this agreement.
- No funds may be awarded under the grant program for a residential recycling program that—
 - **does not provide for the separate collection of residential solid waste** (as defined in section 246.101 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act)) from recycled material (as defined in that section), unless the funds are used to promote a transition to a system that separately collects recycled materials; or
 - **promotes the establishment of, or conversion to, a residential collection system that does not provide for the separate collection of residential solid waste** from recycled material (as those terms are defined under subparagraph (A)).



Funding Available

Pg. 14 of the
RFA

- Total estimated funding for Fiscal Year 2023 is approximately **\$30,000,000**.
- EPA anticipates awarding approximately 25 grants, with at least one grant per EPA region in amounts ranging from **\$250,000-\$2,000,000** per award.
- No Matching is required.
- Estimated start date for projects is October 2023.
- All project activities must be completed within the negotiated project performance period of 3 years.
- Funds may not be used for projects that are already complete and paid for.





Requirements

Eligibility

Pg. 16 of the
RFA

- Entities eligible to apply are:
 - U.S. States, including Washington, D.C.
 - Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.
 - Local governments.
 - Federally recognized tribal governments.
 - Native Hawaiian organizations, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Office of Hawaiian Affairs.
 - Nonprofit organizations.
 - Public-private partnerships.



What is a Public-Private Partnership for the purposes of this RFA?

Pg. 8 of the
RFA

- A public-private partnership (P3) is a formal relationship between a unit of government and a non-governmental organization (for-profit or non-profit) that is memorialized in a legally binding document.
- The public-private partnership must have the authority to enter into binding legal agreements with the Federal government, an organizational structure that ensures accountability for the proper expenditure of Federal funds, and written agreements that specify which party or parties is liable for claims for recovery of unallowable costs incurred under Federal grants.
- Public-Private Partnership agreements must be in place at the time of application submission to be eligible for funding under this grant.



Program Tracks

Pg. 9 of the
RFA

As described in the Request for Applications, the Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach grant program will fund projects under two tracks:

- **Track 1:** Projects that benefit disadvantaged communities as defined in the request for applications. EPA anticipates approximately 40% (or \$12,000,000) of the funding will be awarded to projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.
- **Track 2:** Projects that benefit all other communities that do not meet the definition of disadvantaged communities.



Disadvantaged Community

Pg. 6 & 7 of
the RFA

Justice40, a Biden Administration initiative, sets a goal that 40% of program benefits flow to disadvantaged communities. EPA expects to award approximately **40% of funding** to projects that benefit disadvantaged communities, which are defined for this competition as a community that meets at least one of the following:

1. Located in a **U.S. Territory** (Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands).
2. Meets one or more of the eight **disadvantaged categories** identified in the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) (CEJST) developed by the Council on Environmental Quality.
3. A Census-defined **rural community** that is at or above the 65th percentile for low income AND 80% or more of individuals 15 or older are not enrolled in higher education; or
4. Located in **Indian country**, is a former Indian reservation in Oklahoma (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior), or is an Alaskan Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203.



Statutory Set-Aside

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law directs 20% of the funding Congress appropriated each fiscal year for:

- low-income communities
- rural communities
- communities identified as Native American pursuant to section 2(9) of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001(9))

Awards for this Statutory Set-Aside will be made from Track 1 and Track 2 applicants.



Statutory Set-Aside Definitions

Pg. 7 & 8 of
the RFA

- The communities in this set-aside are defined as follows:
 - **Low-income community** - a community in which the median household income is at or below 200% of the Federal poverty level.
 - **Rural Community** - Local areas with populations of 50,000 or less that have limited access to public or private resources commonly found in metropolitan areas; or a Community Network areas selected by the Rural Partners Network (See rural.gov for a complete list of communities).
 - **Native American Community** – A community relating to, a tribe, people, or culture that is indigenous to the United States





Evaluating Applications

Threshold Eligibility

Pg. 17 & 18 of
the RFA

1. Address at least one of the mandatory objectives described in *Section I.G, Scope of Work*.
2. Eligible entity, as described in *Section III.A: Eligible Applicants*.
3. If an applicant chooses to identify a procurement contractor(s) or subrecipient(s), applicant must demonstrate compliance with the requirements in *Section III.D: Named Contractors and Subrecipients*.
4. Federal funds requested must be between \$250,000 and \$2,000,000.
5. Indicate if project qualifies for Track 1 or Track 2 as defined under *Section I.F: Program Tracks* and include information demonstrating that the application qualifies.
6. Applicants must be for projects that support at least one of the goals and objectives from the EPA's FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan.
7. Substantially comply with the application submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section IV.B: Submission Instructions.
8. Submit application through Grants.Gov.
9. Applications submitted after the submission deadline will be considered late and deemed ineligible without further consideration unless the applicant can demonstrate it was due to EPA mishandling or because of technical problems associated with Grants.gov or relevant SAM.gov system issues.



Application Materials

Pg. 24 of the
RFA

Mandatory

- [Application for Federal Assistance \(Standard Form 424\);](#)
- [Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs \(Standard Form 424A\);](#)
- [EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54;](#)
- [EPA Form 4700-4 Pre-award Compliance Review Report;](#)
- Project Attachment Form (Summary Information Cover Letter + Narrative Proposal + Budget Table and Description)

Optional

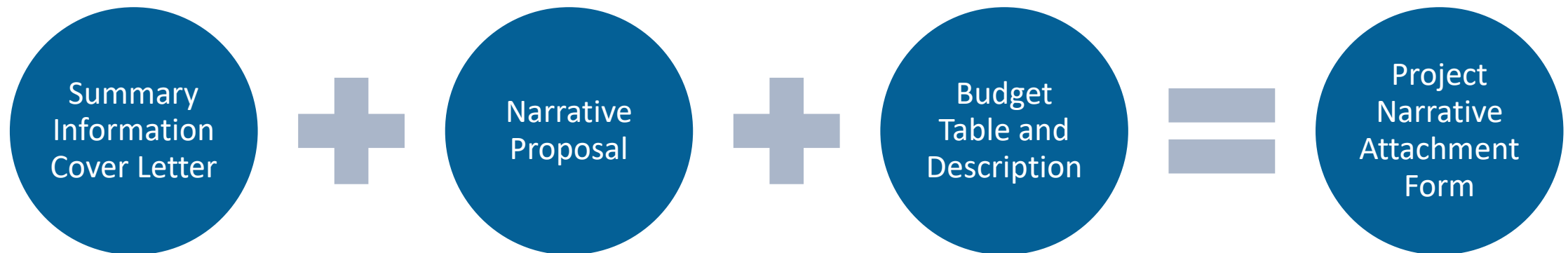
- Other Attachments (milestones, references, letters of support, etc.)



Project Narrative Attachment Form

Pg. 24 & 25 of
the RFA

- Factual information about your proposed project must be provided. Do not include discussions of broad principles that are not specific to the proposed work or project covered by your application.
- Vague descriptions, redundancy, and failure to address each of the evaluation criteria will result in a lower ranking.
- The Narrative Proposal should be submitted in the format detailed in Appendix B, Template for Narrative Proposal.



Summary Information Page

Pg. 25 & 26 of
the RFA

- i. Project Title
- ii. Applicant Name
- iii. Eligible Entity Type
- iv. Qualification for Program Track
- v. Qualification for Statutory Set Aside
- vi. UEI Number
- vii. Project Summary
- viii. Contact Information
- ix. Project Location
- x. Total Project Cost
- xi. EPA Funding Requested
- xii. Project Period
- xiii. Program Objective Elements
- xiv. Strategic Plan Relevance
- xv. Cooperative Partners



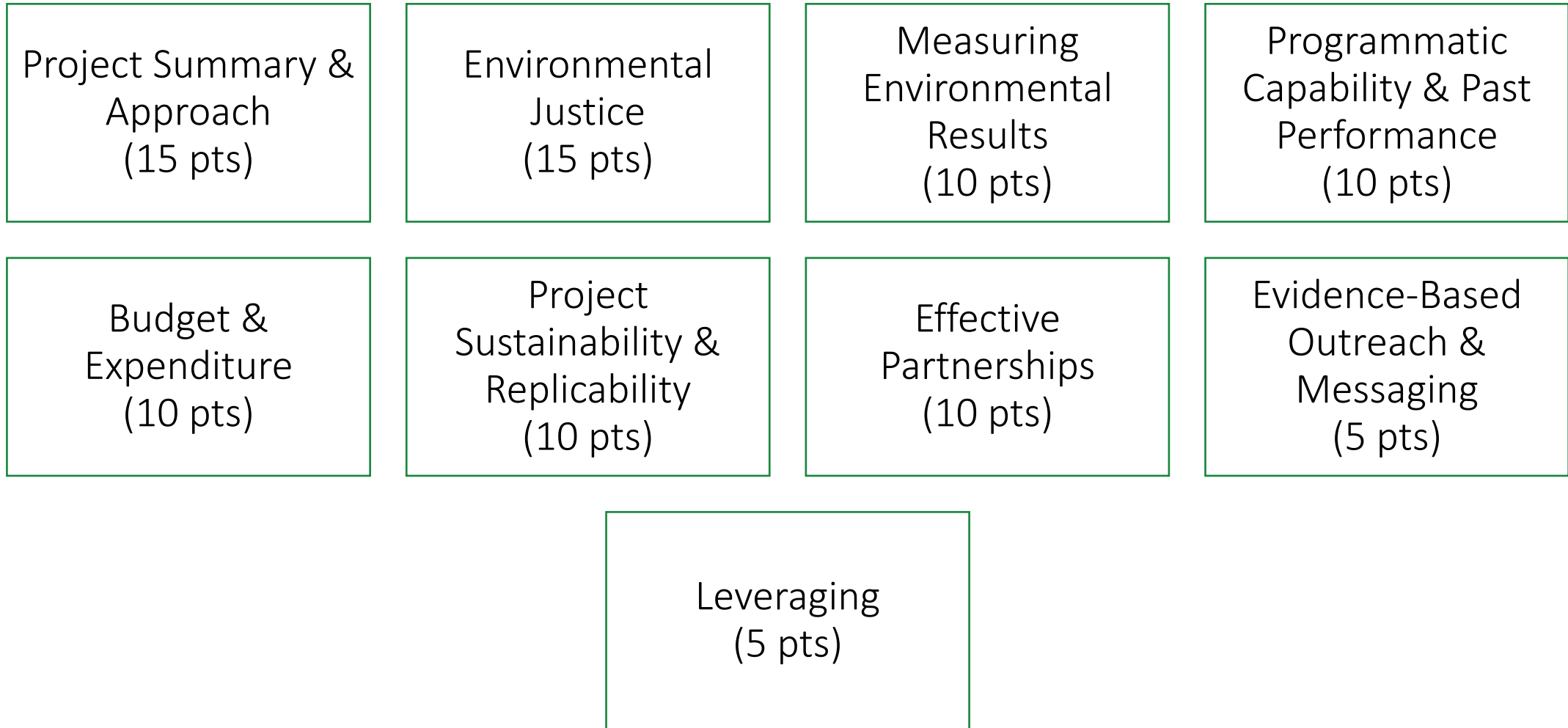
Evaluation Criteria

Pg. 36 of the
RFA

- Eligible entities whose applications meet the Eligibility Information in *Section III* of this announcement will be reviewed according to the evaluation criterion set forth in the following slides.
- Each application will be rated under a points system, with a total of **110 points** possible.
- Applicants may, but are not required to, use the Optional Template for the Project Narrative Attachment Form (*Appendix B*).



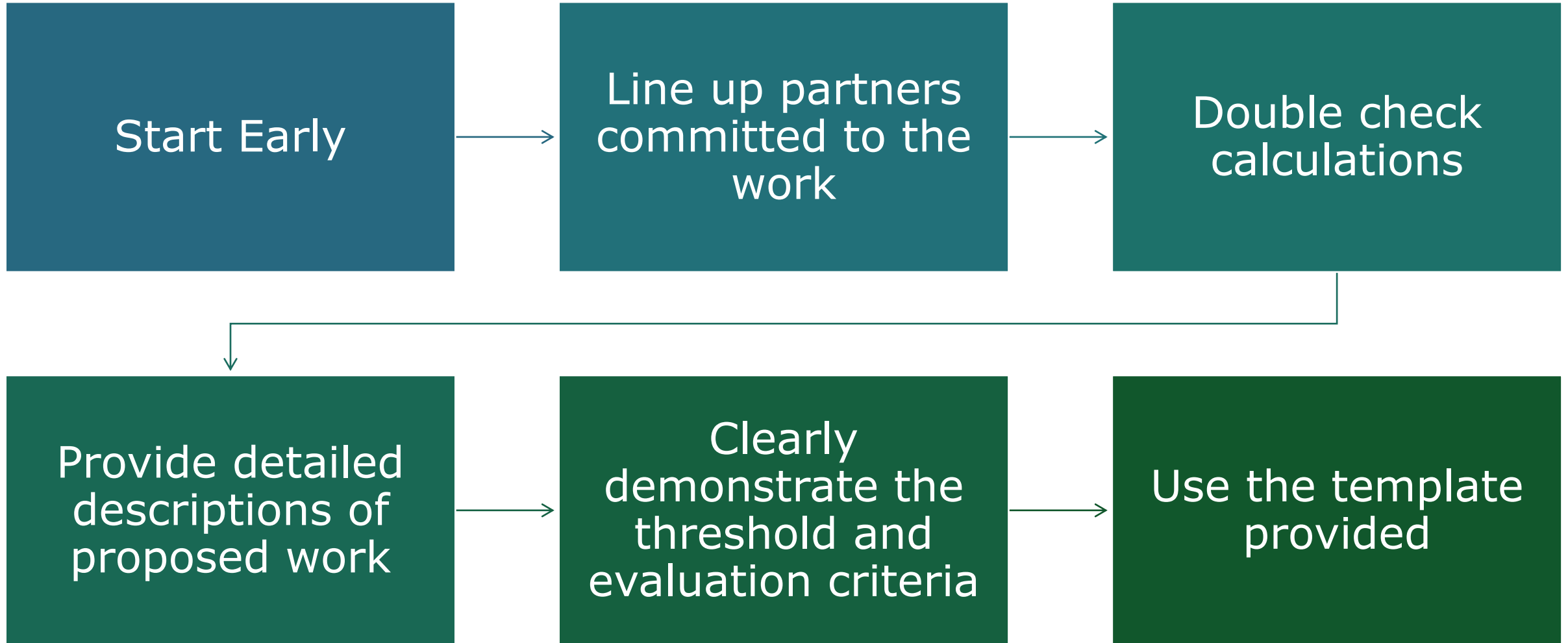
Evaluation Criteria Weighting





Resources

Tips for Preparing an Application

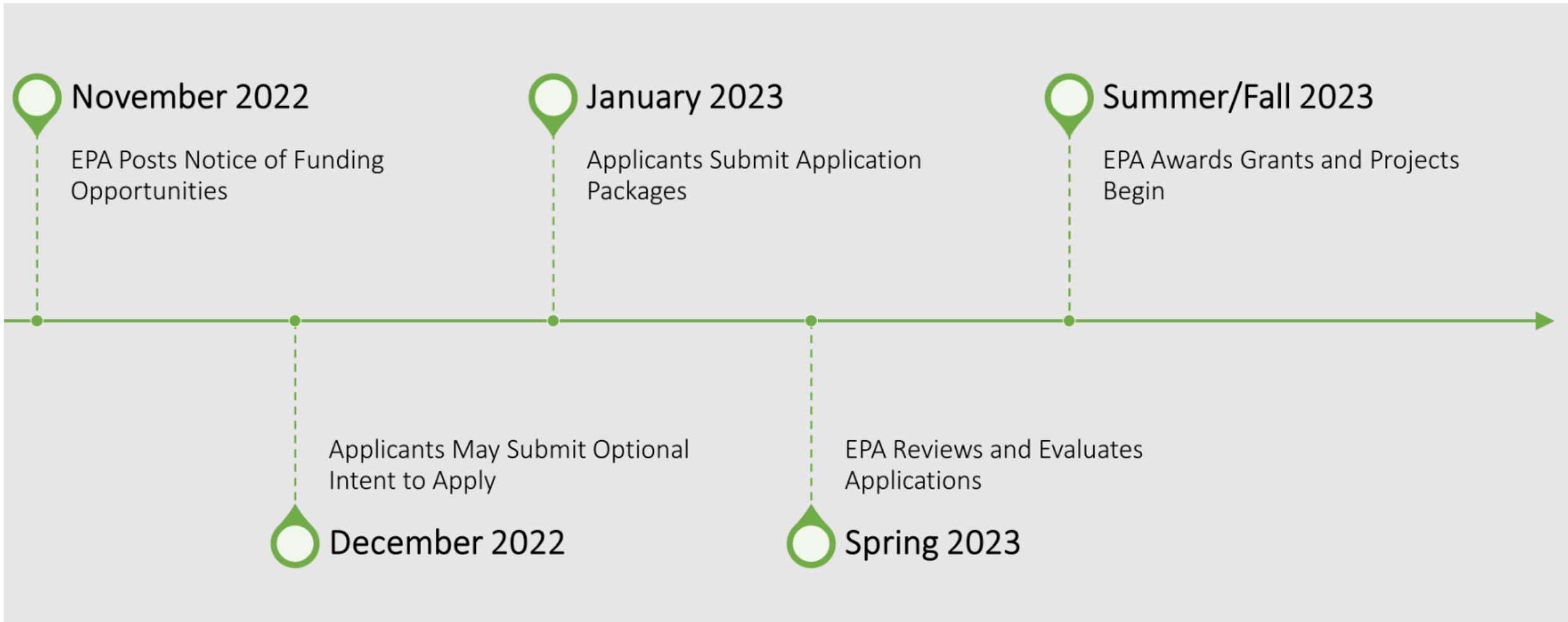


General EPA Grant Requirements

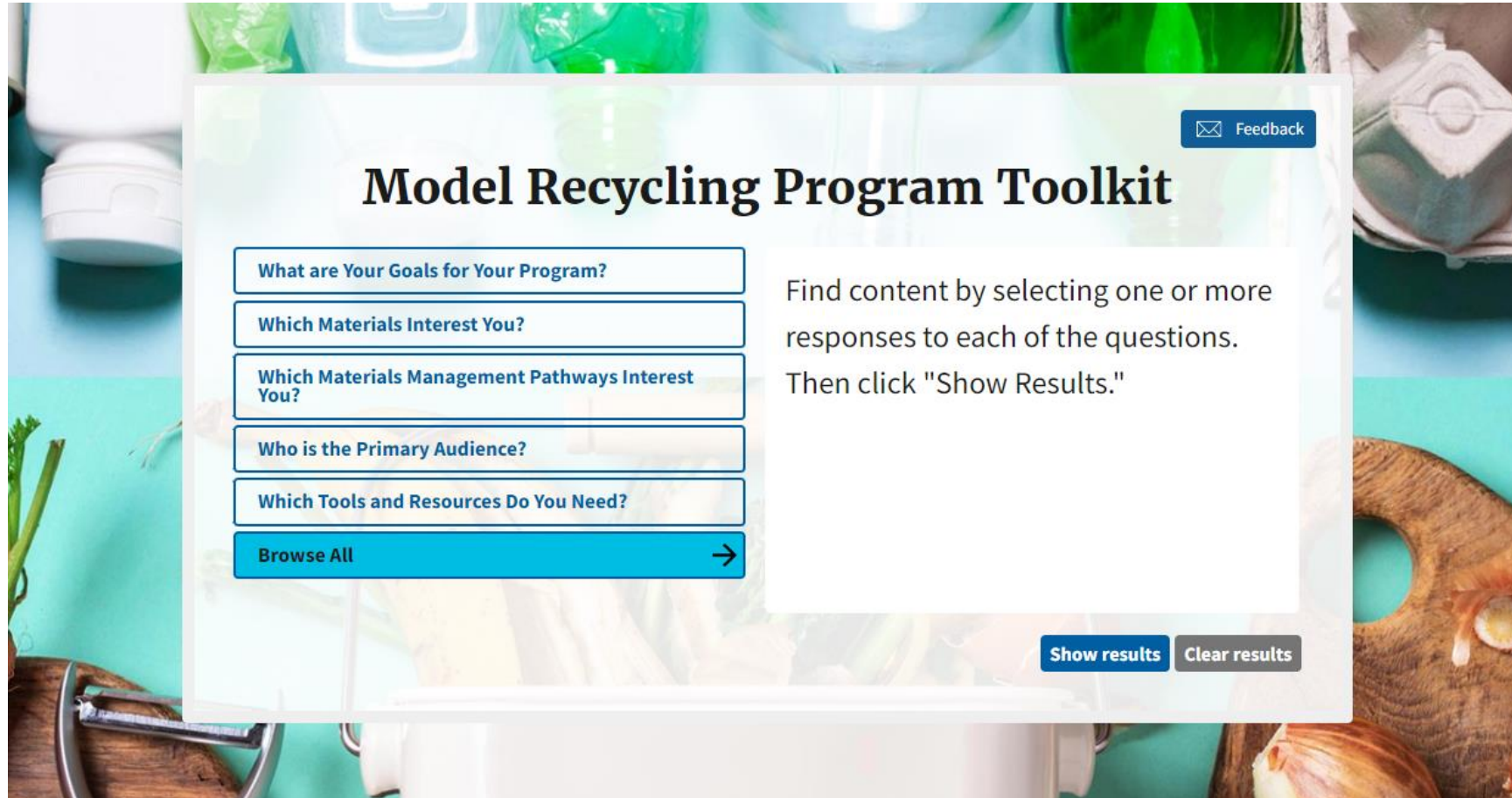
- ***Register Now on SAM.gov!*** These registrations are taking a month or more to complete!
- You must have an active SAM registration in www.SAM.gov to apply for the grant.
- Once your SAM.gov account is active, you must register in www.Grants.gov.



Estimated Timeline



Model Recycling Program Toolkit



Access the Toolkit: www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/toolkit



Creating Messages that Drive Behavior Change

- Education alone rarely changes behavior
- Social marketing principles can drive behavior change
- Training includes examples of social marketing applied to recycling, composting, and food waste prevention



Behavior Change Training:

www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/creating-messages-drive-behavior-change



Useful Links

- *Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/recycling-education-and-outreach-grant-program>
- *Prepare for a Grant Application Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/prepare-grant-application>
- *Model Recycling Program Toolkit:* <https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/toolkit>
- *Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under The EPA Assistance Agreements:* <https://www.epa.gov/grants/best-practice-guide-procuring-services-supplies-and-equipment-under-epa-assistance>
- *The EPA Subaward Policy with attachments:* <https://www.epa.gov/grants/grants-policy-issuance-gpi-16-01-epa-subaward-policy-epa-assistance-agreement-recipients>
- *The EPA Interim General Budget Development Guidance for Applicants and Recipients of EPA Financial Assistance:* www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-05/documents/applicant-budget-development-guidance.pdf
- *The EPA Solicitation Clauses:* www.epa.gov/grants/epa-solicitation-clauses
- *The EPA Grants Policy Resources:* www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-policy-resources
- *The EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients:* www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-management-training-applicants-and-recipients



Upcoming Webinars for the Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program

- **Dates:**

- December 15, 2022 from 2:00-3:30 PM EST
- December 20, 2022 from 6:00-7:00 PM EST

- **Purpose:**

- Provide guidance on procurement and subawards
- Answer additional questions

- Register online!





Questions

RecyclingEd@epa.gov

THANK YOU!

