



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Request for Applications

Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

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





Agenda

- Introduction
- Funding Opportunity Overview
- Eligible Entities
- Requirements
- Evaluating Applications
- Resources
- Questions and Answers





Introduction

Goals of the Webinar

1

Provide an overview of the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling funding opportunity for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

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**



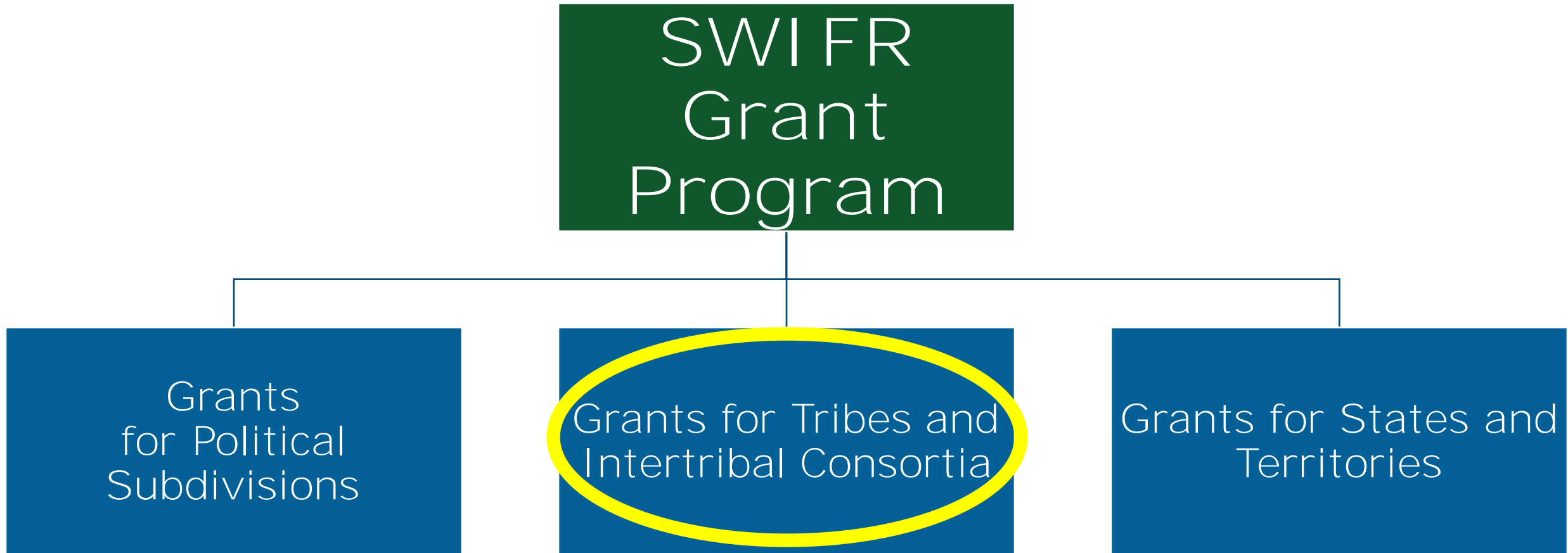
Objectives:

- 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



Webinars:

Series 1: January 19th, 25th

Series 2: February 1st, 7th



DEADLINE EXTENDED: Recycling Education and Outreach Funding Opportunity

- Grant program for education and outreach projects that:
 - inform the public about recycling programs,
 - provide information about recycled materials and/or,
 - increase collection rates and decrease contamination.
- Total estimated funding for REO in 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.
- Applications must be received no later than February 15, 2023:



Webinars for Prospective Grantees

Topic	Purpose	Date and Time (ET)
SWIFR Tribes and Intertribal Consortia	Series 1: RFA overview, eligible entities, evaluation criteria, application process, and answer questions	January 19, 2023: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET
		January 25, 2023: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ET
	Series 2: Focused on procurement, subawards, and answer questions	February 1, 2023: 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. ET
		February 7, 2023: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ET

Register at
[tinyurl.com/
mtmmxwt7](https://tinyurl.com/mtmmxwt7)

or





Funding Opportunity Overview

Scope of Work

Projects for tribes and intertribal consortia must achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- Develop or update plans focused on encouraging environmentally sound post-consumer materials management such as source reduction (e.g., repair clinics, reuse centers), collection, storage, transportation, composting, recycling, and/or markets for recyclables;
- Develop, strengthen, and/or implement comprehensive data collection efforts that demonstrate progress towards the National Recycling Goal and Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal;
- Establish, increase, or expand materials management infrastructure, such as facilities for reuse, recycling or composting; collection and storage bins for recyclable or organic material, purchasing and maintaining equipment or supplies such as scales, crushers, balers, and sorting equipment, trucks, forklifts, and safety equipment);
- Establish or identify end-markets for the use of recycled materials; or
- Demonstrate an increase in the diversion recycling rate, and/or quality of materials collected.



Types of Eligible Projects

Projects may include (but are not limited to) projects that fund:

- Developing or updating plans focused on improving post-consumer materials management;
- Planning and construction of facilities for food recovery, reuse, recycling, composting or anaerobic digestion;
- Purchasing collection or storage bins for recyclables or organic material;
- Purchasing or leasing recycling equipment or supplies for post-consumer materials management recovery efforts (e.g., crushers, balers, and sorting equipment, trucks, forklifts, safety equipment);
- Activities focused on development of end-markets for materials (e.g., working with a recycler to accept collected materials for processing);
- Activities to support increasing and improving collection of recyclable materials and/or organics and food waste, and backhaul;



Types of Eligible Projects (continued)

Projects may include (but are not limited to) projects that fund (continued):

- Activities to reduce, reuse and recycle building materials including deconstruction (dismantling buildings for reuse and recycling) and construction and demolition debris recycling equipment and projects;
- Activities focused on reducing contamination in the recycling stream;
- Training, technical assistance, and/or tools required to plan, establish, or implement post-consumer materials recovery (e.g., applicants may apply for funding for training employees on use and safety of recycling equipment, raise awareness of infrastructure and processes);
- Land acquisition when necessary for construction or improvement for improvements to tribal recycling facilities and waste management facilities subject to the requirements 2 CFR 200.311 and 2 CFR 200.316; and/or
- Other activities that the applicant believes will further the objectives of the RFA.



Prohibition on Use of Funds

- **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.
- All costs must meet the requirements for allowability in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E and applicable provisions of 2 CFR Part 1500.
- **As provided in 33 U.S.C. 4282(f), SWIFR cooperative agreement funding “ . . . may not be used (directly or indirectly) as a source of payment (in whole or in part) of, or security for, an obligation the interest on which is excluded from gross income under section 103 of Title 26” of the United States Code.** This provision relates to State and local government bonds.



Funding Available

- Total estimated funding for FY23 is approximately \$40,000,000.
- EPA anticipates awarding approximately 60 assistance agreements, with at least one award per EPA region in amounts ranging from \$100,000 - \$1,500,000 per award.
- No cost matching is required.
- Estimated start date for projects is December 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

Eligible Entities

Entities eligible to apply:

- Federally Recognized Tribes, which include Alaskan Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203, and former Indian reservations in Oklahoma, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, and
- Intertribal consortia, consistent with the requirements in 40 CR 35.504(a).

Entities not eligible:

- States and Territories
- Individuals
- For-profit and non-profit organizations





Evaluating Applications

Threshold Eligibility

1. Address at least one of the mandatory objectives described in *Section I.F, 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 \$100,000 and \$1,500,000.
5. **Projects that support at least one of the goals and objectives from the EPA's FY 2022 -2026 Strategic Plan.**
6. Funds awarded under this RFA may not be used to carry out the same activities that are already funded or in the process of being funded under other EPA financial assistance programs such as the Indian General Assistance Program, Tribal Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program, and the Tribal Response Program Grants or financial assistance applicants receive from other Federal agencies.
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

Mandatory

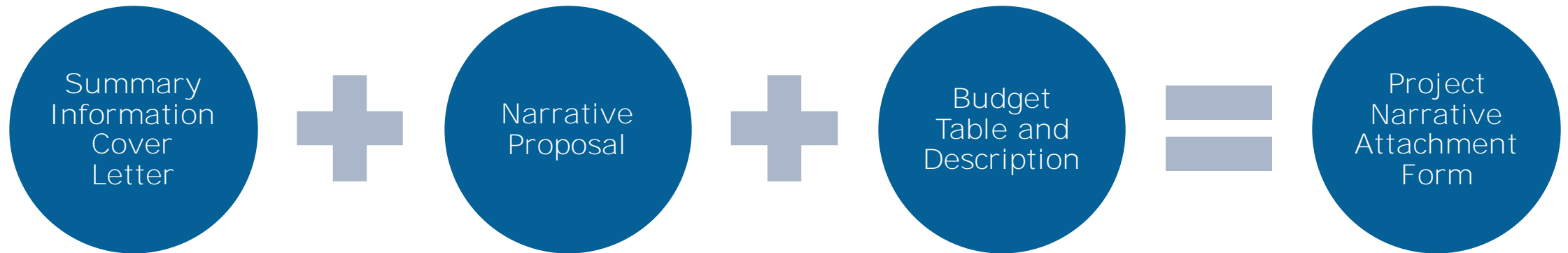
- [Application for Federal Assistance \(Standard Form 424\);](#)
- [Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs \(Standard Form 424A\);](#)
- [EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54;](#)
- [EPA Form 4700-4 Pre-award Compliance Review Report;](#)
- Project Attachment Form (Summary Information Cover Letter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

Optional

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



Project Narrative Attachment Form



- 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

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



Build America, Buy America Act (BABA)

- Applicants should be aware that if their proposals include using Federal funds for a project that includes the purchase of goods, products, and materials on any form of construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States for identified EPA financial assistance funding programs, they must comply with Buy America Sourcing requirements under the Build America, Buy America provisions of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
- More information:
 - Section VI.F: Build America, Buy America (pages 44-45) of the [SWIFR Request for Applications](#)
 - [EPA Grant Terms and Conditions](#)



Evaluation Criteria

- Eligible entities whose applications meet the Eligibility Information in *Section III* of the 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 100 points possible.
- Applicants may, but are not required to, use the Optional Template for the Narrative Attachment Form (*Appendix B*).



Evaluation Criteria Weighting

Project Summary &
Approach
(35 pts)

Measuring
Environmental
Results
(10 pts)

Impactful
Approaches and
Solutions
(15 pts)

Programmatic
Capability & Past
Performance
(10 pts)

Project
Sustainability
(5 pts)

Project
Replicability
(15 pts)

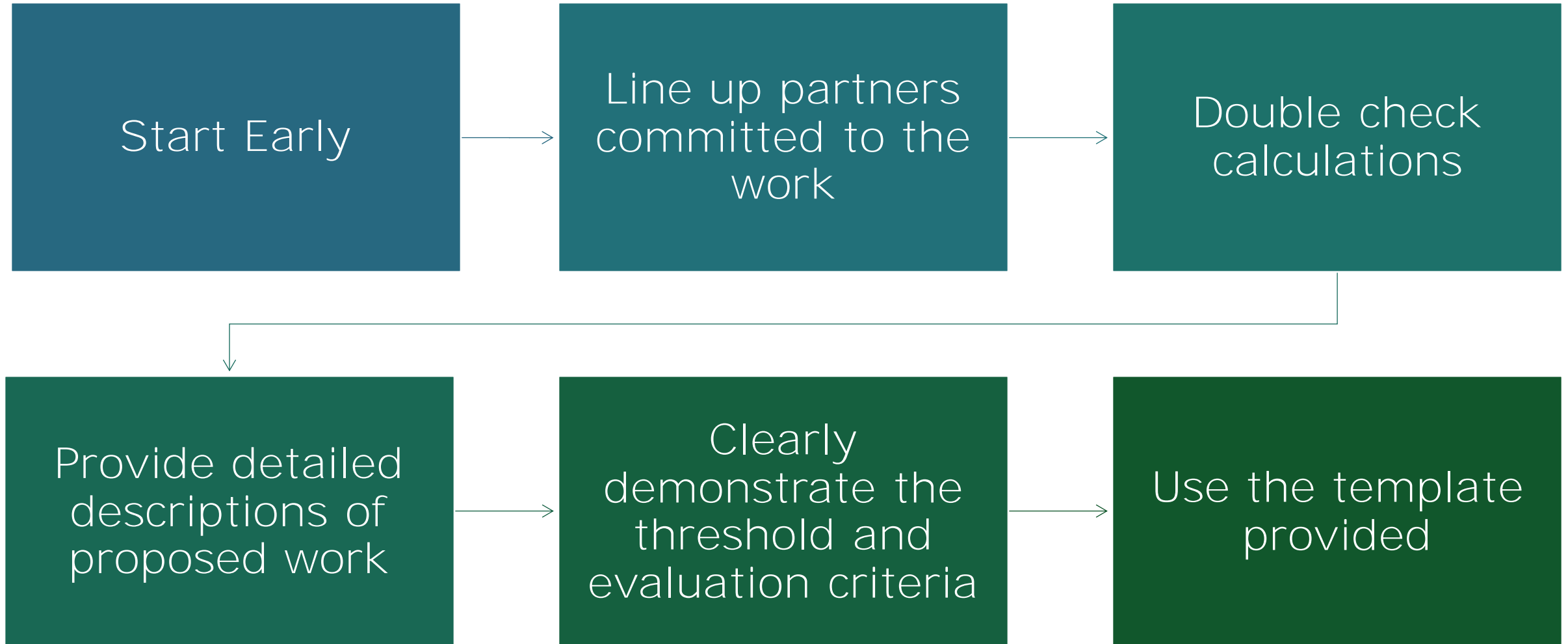
Budget &
Expenditure
(10 pts)





Resources

Tips for Preparing an Application

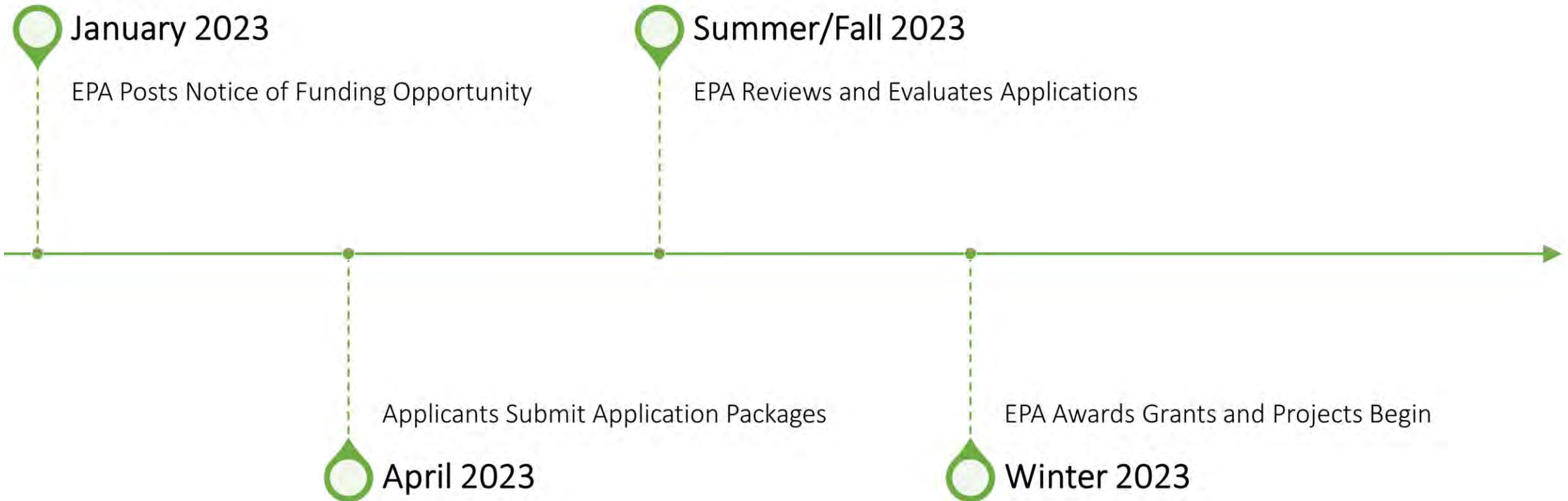


General EPA Grant Requirements

- *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



Useful Links

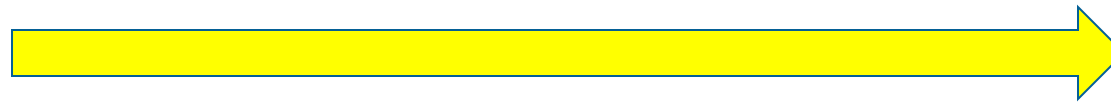
- *The EPA SWIFR Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-transforming-us-recycling-and-waste-management>
- *SWIFR Grants for Tribes Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/grants-tribes-and-intertribal-consortia>
- *Prepare for a Grant Application Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/prepare-grant-application>
- *Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under The EPA Assistance Agreements:* www.epa.gov/grants/best-practice-guide-procuring-services-supplies-and-equipment-under-epa-assistance-agreements
- *The EPA Subaward Policy with attachments:* www.epa.gov/grants/grants-policy-issuance-gpi-16-01-epasubaward-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
- *Build America, Buy America Requirements:* <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/build-america-buy-america-baba>



Upcoming Webinars for the SWIFR Grant Program for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

- Dates:
 - February 1, 2023 from 1:00-2:30 PM EST
 - February 7, 2023 from 4:00-5:00 PM EST
- Purpose:
 - Provide guidance on procurement and subawards
 - Answer additional questions

• Register online!



• Webinar recordings and slides at:

<https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/grants-tribes-and-intertribal-consortia>





Questions

SWIFRTribal@epa.gov



THANK YOU!

