

Expedited Drinking Water Grant Funding Program

Public Workshop



February 2023

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Workshop Overview

- Background
- Expedited Drinking Water Grant (EDWG) Guidelines
 - Funding Sources
 - Eligible Applicants and Projects
 - Prioritization
 - Grant Limits
- Application/Funding Process
- Grant Agreements
- Project Proposal Form & Attachments
- Questions

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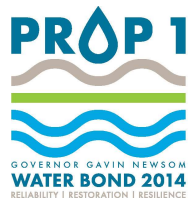
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Background

- Tasked with administering a significant increase in grants
 - Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund
 - General Fund Infrastructure Appropriation
- Process improvement (2 years)
- Two external reviews
 - “Develop a process to fast-track urgent water projects, particularly for failing water systems affecting a large number of people or serving a disadvantaged community. One option for doing so would be to use state-only funding that is not subject to federal requirements.”

Funding Sources

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)



The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68)



California Budget Act of 2021 and Budget Act of 2022, General Fund Appropriations

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund



Eligible Entities and Projects

- Eligible Entities
 - Public Agencies (Cities, Counties, Special Districts)
 - Public School Districts
- Eligible Projects
 - Construction (may include some up-front design/environmental)
 - Small severely disadvantaged communities (SDACs), small disadvantaged communities (DACs), small non-disadvantaged communities, and expanded small DACs/SDACs
 - Must be ranked in Category A-D and/or be a consolidation project

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Prioritization

- Projects that support the State's policy on the human right to water
- Projects that are identified by the regulatory agency as high priority
- Projects that are needed to prevent or address drought-related shortages
- Projects that have a reasonable schedule to completion
- Projects that qualify for a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption or the CEQA process is complete

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Grant Limits

- Per connection grant limits specified in the current Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP) apply
- \$10,000,000 grant maximum per project*

* The Deputy Director of DFA on a case-by-case basis may approve funding of projects above the maximum amount for good cause

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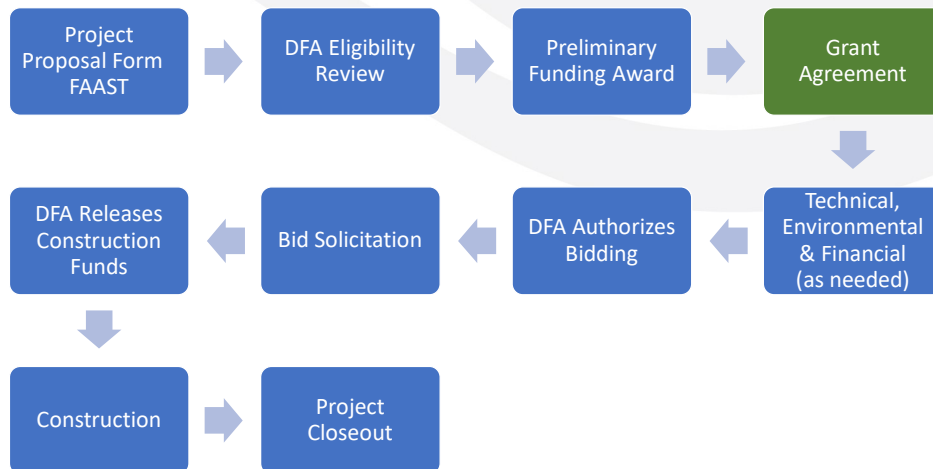
Application Process

- **Initial round(s)**
 - DFA will identify projects for which partial or complete DWSRF applications have been submitted which qualify under the EDWG program
 - DFA staff will work with applicants to collect the information or documentation necessary for the preparation of a EDWG agreement
- **Subsequent rounds**
 - DFA will periodically announce a deadline for EDWG proposals

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Funding Process



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Grant Agreement

- Upon receiving a grant agreement, recipients will complete any remaining necessary technical, environmental, and financial documents for the project
- Recipients will submit these documents in addition to the EDWG simplified environmental and financial packages to DFA
- DFA will review documents submitted to ensure all grant agreement conditions have been met, then authorize the recipient to proceed with bid solicitation
- Upon selection of a contractor, DFA will review bid documents and release construction funds
- Amendments will be processed on an as-needed basis

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Project Proposal Form Attachments

Appendix B – Project Proposal Form

- Attachment 1 – Scope of Work Template
- Attachment 2 – Engineering Document Guidance
- Attachment 3 – Self-Certification Form
- Attachment 4 – Authorizing Resolution Template
- Attachment 5 – EDWG Environmental Package *
- Attachment 6 – EDWG Financial Security Package *

* May be submitted after execution of a grant agreement

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EDWG Draft Guidelines – Questions

Written comments due February 10, 2023:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/comments/docs/2023/notice_edwg_010623.pdf

Send questions to:

OSWS@waterboards.ca.gov

Additional information can be found on the EDWG program page:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/services/funding/expedited-grant-funding.html

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