

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) FUNDING PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding the following please contact Kim Dinh by telephone at 916-341-5729 or by email at [kim.dinh@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kim.dinh@waterboards.ca.gov).

### ***Who is administering the TA Funding Program?***

TA is implemented by the State Water Resources Control Board's Office of Sustainable Water Solutions (Office) within the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA). The Office promotes permanent and sustainable drinking water and wastewater treatment solutions to ensure effective and efficient provision of safe, clean, affordable, and reliable drinking water and wastewater treatment services, focusing on addressing financial and technical assistance needs.

### ***Who may receive TA?***

TA is available to help small ( $\leq 10,000$  people) disadvantaged (median household income [MHI]  $\leq 80\%$  statewide MHI) communities (small DACs) develop, fund, and implement capital improvement projects. This includes communities served by public water systems (PWS), state small water systems, or private wells. For non-PWS, TA may be provided to evaluate options and help develop an eligible project (to connect them to a PWS).

### ***What types of projects are eligible for TA?***

TA efforts will be focused on development of projects for the following:

#### **Drinking Water**

More information can be found on the [State Water Board's Drinking Water Program website](#):

([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/dwsrf/scoping\\_workshops.shtml](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/dwsrf/scoping_workshops.shtml)) Infrastructure improvements to correct system deficiencies & improve drinking water quality:

- o Treatment systems
- o Distribution systems & water storage
- o Interconnections, extension of service, consolidation
- o Water sources
- o Water meters

#### **Wastewater**

More information can be found on the [State Water Board's Clean Water Program](#): ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/srf/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/))

Infrastructure improvements to correct system deficiencies & prevent pollution:

- o Wastewater treatment & discharge facilities
- o Replacement or rehabilitation of local sewers
- o Septic to sewer projects

#### **Groundwater Quality**

More information can be found on the [State Water Board's Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program website](#):

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([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/proposition1/groundwater\\_sustainability.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/groundwater_sustainability.html))

Projects that prevent or cleanup the contamination of groundwater that serves or has served as a source of drinking water:

- o Wellhead treatment
- o Installation of extraction & treatment systems
- o Source removal
- o Groundwater recharge to prevent contamination of wells
- o Groundwater injection to prevent seawater intrusion

### **Storm Water**

More information can be found on the [State Water Board's Storm Water Grant Program website](#):

([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/grants\\_loans/swgp/prop1/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/swgp/prop1/))

Multiple benefit projects designed to infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, treat, or retain storm water or dry weather runoff:

- o Green infrastructure
- o Rainwater & storm water capture projects
- o Storm water treatment facilities

*(Note: Storm water TA resources are limited. The TA program is not currently accepting new communities for storm water TA. However, requests may still be submitted; the Office will keep requests on file for future consideration as resources allow.)*

### **What types of TA services can be provided with TA?**

#### **Project coordination and development**

- o Application assistance
- o Rate studies
- o Income surveys
- o Technical, managerial, and financial (TMF) capacity assessment
- o Facilitate discussions with regulatory agencies, funding agencies, & between nearby communities

#### **Legal assistance**

- o Entity formation or ownership issues
- o Agreements for the transfer of facilities or provision of water supply sources
- o Review of existing debts & preparation of bond counsel opinions
- o Negotiations on behalf of small systems to consolidate into a nearby system, buy water, purchase land, secure access agreements, etc.

#### **Engineering and environmental analysis**

- o Preliminary engineering & project report preparation
- o Plans & specifications
- o Water quality testing

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- o California Environmental Quality Act documents

### **Leak detection/water audits**

- o Identify water loss problems

### ***Which entities are providing TA?***

The Office has executed grant agreements with the following TA Providers:

- California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
- California Rural Water Association
- Community Water Center
- Pueblo Unido CDC
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation
- Self-Help Enterprises
- Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability
- California State University, Sacramento
- California State University, San Bernardino
- University of California, Davis

### ***What happens after a TA request is submitted?***

*Once an assistance request (AR) is received, Office staff will review it for eligibility and will assign it to the appropriate TA provider. If the AR is assigned to one of the TA Providers, the TA Provider will schedule a kick-off call as needed with the Office Grant Manager (GM), the TA Recipient, and all other parties involved (ex. staff from DDW, LPA, and/or DFA). Following the kick-off meeting, the TA Provider will submit a work plan for TA GM approval.*