

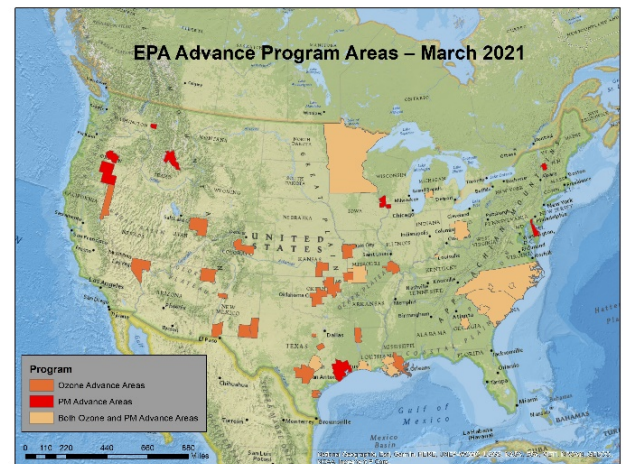
ADVANCE

A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Program

The Advance Program, established by the EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards in 2012, is a voluntary, collaborative initiative between EPA, state and local governments, and tribes to address ground-level ozone and particle pollution. After joining Advance, areas designated as attainment for the ozone and/or PM_{2.5} national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) develop plans and take actions in their communities to proactively reduce emissions, improve air quality, and remain in attainment. Areas have flexibility to include in their plans programs that meet multiple objectives in their communities (e.g., air quality, sustainability, climate change, environmental justice, etc.). Currently, there are 45 Advance partner areas with a combined population of 54 million.

Benefits of the Advance Program

- Cost of remaining in attainment is less than cost of meeting nonattainment area requirements
- Provides a forum for community and stakeholder collaboration on clean air and related issues
- Access to EPA expertise and technical assistance opportunities
 - Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
 - Office of Atmospheric Programs
 - Office of Transportation and Air Quality
 - Office of Research and Development
 - Office of Community Revitalization
 - EPA Regional Offices
- Monthly webinars and collaboration with other Advance partners
- EPA monthly newsletter provides info on grants, training, and webinars
- Participation with EPA provides credibility and demonstrates clean air commitment
- Educates public and community about air quality and health
- Areas have access to a detailed index of programs and initiatives found in partner plans
- Partners have flexibility to include broad array of programs and initiatives
- Promotes collaboration and positive actions by industry, government, community stakeholders with goal of avoiding nonattainment designation



Join the Advance Program

1. Submit sign-up letter to the EPA Advance Program Managers
 - Identify your lead governmental organization and other partners
 - Identify geographic area and jurisdictions to be covered by your program
 - Indicate if joining Ozone Advance, PM Advance, or both
 - Identify the federal air quality monitor(s) for ozone and/or PM2.5 in the area
 - Certify that your state has provided a submission to the most recent update of the National Emission Inventory
2. Conduct stakeholder meetings and identify priority actions to include in your initial plan.
3. Within one year, submit an initial “Path Forward” plan for the area, in consultation with EPA.
4. Provide an annual Advance plan revision
 - Review progress made under most recent plan
 - Provide updated plan and proposed new actions for the upcoming year.

Technical Assistance and Collaboration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action Days/evaluate key sources contributing to ozone and/or PM2.5 ▪ Burnwise wood smoke reduction ▪ Clean energy and clean power purchasing ▪ Tools for estimating emission reductions and health benefits from renewable energy/energy efficiency ▪ Green power partnership communities ▪ Electric vehicles and charging infrastructure ▪ Environmental education curricula ▪ Green infrastructure / heat island ▪ Coordination with climate and sustainability programs ▪ Social media and outreach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multi-pollutant/toxics reduction in underserved communities ▪ Cost savings from renewable energy and energy efficiency (commercial/community/residential) ▪ Air monitoring / low-cost sensors ▪ Innovative transportation programs ▪ Energy efficient building codes ▪ Grant opportunities / innovative program financing ▪ Smartway / fleets / goods movement ▪ Ports Initiative – community programs ▪ Community revitalization / smart growth / urban planning ▪ Building energy management ▪ Energy Star industrial partnerships ▪ Metrics for tracking progress

For more information

- Rich Damberg, damberg.rich@epa.gov, 919-541-5592
- Mia South, south.mia@epa.gov, 919-541-5550
- EPA Advance Program website: <https://www.epa.gov/Advance>

