

## Frequently Asked Questions and Answers:

### FY 2024 – FY 2025 Regional Source Reduction Assistance Grants

This document addresses frequently asked questions and answers to help potential applicants apply for FY 24-25 SRA grant funding. Periodic updates to this document may be made during the application submission period.

*1. What is source reduction?*

**Answer:** Source Reduction (also known as Pollution Prevention or P2) is any practice that reduces, eliminates, or prevents pollution at its source before it is created and prior to recycling, treatment or disposal. More information about pollution prevention can be found on EPA's P2 program page here: <https://www.epa.gov/p2/learn-about-pollution-prevention>.

*2. Can I apply if I currently have another P2 grant?*

**Answer:** Current P2 grantees can apply for the FY24 SRA grant competition. However, the scope of work must indicate new project work. EPA cannot fund the same project tasks that are currently being funded under the applicant's existing P2 grant.

*3. If my project has received funding from EPA in the past, can I apply for this grant to continue the work of the project?*

**Answer:** Previous and current EPA grantees are eligible to apply with either new or continued/expanded projects with prior P2 funding. Applicants must clearly differentiate the new proposal and budget from existing projects.

*4. How will applications be selected? What are threshold eligibility criteria and how are they used?*

**Answer:** All applications will be reviewed against the threshold eligibility criteria noted in Section III.C of the grant announcements. The threshold eligibility criteria are used to screen which applications are eligible to merit further review. Applications that meet all threshold eligibility criteria will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria noted in Section V.A of the grant announcements.

*5. Is this a competitive grant program?*

**Answer:** Yes. To view the grant announcement, please go to [Source Reduction Assistance Grants](#) page.

*6. How many grants will be awarded and how much funding is available?*

**Answer:** EPA anticipates awarding 7 to 27 grants ranging from \$40,000-\$240,000, with up to a total of \$1,500,000 in federal funds available across Regions 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Please see Section II.A. in the grant announcement for Region specific information.

*7. What is the maximum amount of funding each grant can receive?*

**Answer:** Maximum funding amounts may range from \$180,000 - \$240,000, depending on the Region the project is located in. Please see Section II.A. in the grant announcement to see the maximum amount of funding for your Region. Applicants are encouraged to apply for the maximum amount of funding they would like to be considered for; partial funding may be available if EPA is not able to fully fund the proposal.

*8. Who is eligible to apply?*

**Answer:** Eligible applicants include States, local, interstate, and intrastate government agencies and instrumentalities, federally recognized Tribes, intertribal consortia, and 501 (c)(3) non-profit organizations. All projects must take place within the geographic boundaries of one of the EPA Regions 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

*9. Is my business eligible for this grant?*

**Answer:** For-profit organizations are not eligible for this grant. If you are a business interested in P2 or receiving technical assistance, you can utilize the [P2 Technical Assistance Providers](#) page to find assistance in your region.

*10. When is the application deadline?*

**Answer:** Applications are due by April 15, 2024, 11:59 pm, Eastern Time. EPA will receive applications electronically through Grants.gov. Applications will be electronically date and time stamped. Please refer to Section IV.A of this grant announcement for full information on the submission process. Applications must be submitted on time to be considered for funding.

*11. Are the budget and timeline included in the 10 page limit?*

**Answer:** Yes, the budget and timeline are included within the 10 page limit. However, applicants are permitted to include "illustrative graphs, charts or tables of budgets and timelines" to supplement their application. The inclusion of any such graphs, charts or tables do not count towards the 10 page limit.

*12. Can non-federal grant funding (such as county or foundation grants) and in-kind donations (such as volunteer staff time) qualify for the 5% match?*

**Answer:** As long as they aren't already contributing to a different grant project, you can utilize non-federal grant funds for the match.

*13. Do in-kind donations (such as volunteer staff time) qualify for the 5% match?*

**Answer:** Yes. See Section III.B. for more information on the matching requirement and criteria.

*14. How do I quantify the work accomplished by my project to meet the needed required metrics?*

You can utilize the calculators found a [EPA Tools](#) to measure environmental outcomes and economic performance related to pollution prevention activities. More information on measuring pollution prevention can also be found [here](#).

*15. Would this grant be applicable to the Transfer Station construction? Or how about the purchasing of large equipment for waste reduction (i.e., cardboard bailor, recycling trailer, mulcher for green waste reuse, etc.)?*

**Answer:** No. The SRA grants are part of the P2 program which does not fund construction or equipment-purchase projects. Additionally, P2 does not fund projects that fall into these categories: recycling of discarded materials, waste clean-up, disposal activities, managing or processing of non-hazardous solid waste (e.g., paper, cardboard, glass, plastics), and the implementation of Lean manufacturing activities that do not involve reductions in the use/release of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, greenhouse gas releases or water use.

*16. My organization works with recycled products and aims to create a circular system through recycling materials, am I eligible for this grant?*

**Answer:** Projects that involve recycling are not eligible. The SRA Grant provides funding to reduce the amount of any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant entering any waste *prior to recycling* of discarded material, treatment, or disposal. The grant should be used for activities that reduce or eliminate pollution at its source *before* waste management.