

Great Lakes Environmental Justice Grant Program

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

July 20, 2023

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Bureau: Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO)
Application Deadline: August 11, 2023	Max Award: \$20 million

Description

The Great Lakes Environmental Justice Grant Program (GLEJGP) is a competitive opportunity to fund six grant programs that will provide subawards for environmental restoration projects in historically underserved Great Lakes communities.

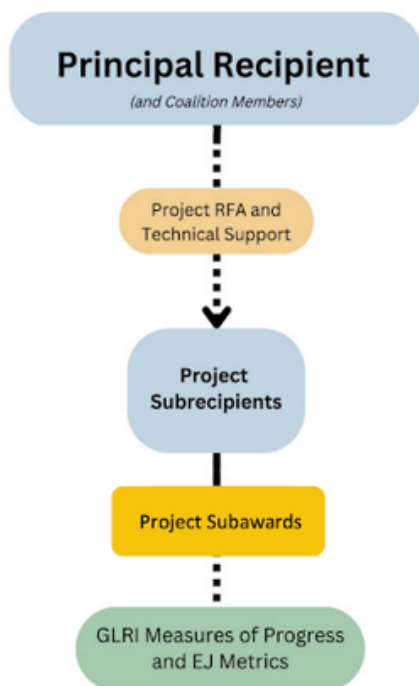
Eligible Recipients

- State agencies
- Interstate agencies
- Federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations
- Local governments
- Institutions of higher learning
- Non-profit organizations (excluding 501(c)(4) nonprofits)

This RFA is not targeted directly at underserved communities themselves - instead, it will select a Principal Recipient to serve as a pass-through entity that will build or leverage relationships with underserved communities.

The Principal Recipient may choose to work with other partners who would serve as Coalition Members; however, one entity must be responsible for the grant.

The Principal Recipient will then prepare, develop, implement, and oversee a competitive grant program to provide subawards.



Eligible Projects

Grants can fund both: 1) development, implementation, and management of the subaward project RFAs and 2) subawards to Project Subrecipients for on-the-ground GLRI work in underserved communities. Subawards will benefit underserved communities and will range from \$50,000 - \$750,000. Projects funded through subawards must improve the environmental health of the Great Lakes or Great Lakes watersheds through a variety of activities, including:

- Restoring, enhancing, or protecting habitat;
- Reducing non-point source runoff through green infrastructure, riparian restoration, shoreline stabilization, or other stormwater/nutrient reduction practices that will improve water quality;
- Connecting aquatic resources, such as dam removals and culvert replacements.;
- Controlling or preventing invasive species; and
- Providing hands-on, place-based environmental educational opportunities in the Great Lakes Basin.

Subawards may also include 1) activities that improve communities' access and enjoyment of restored areas or 2) activities related to workforce development within communities. However, these activities must be part of and enhance an eligible project that accomplishes and is directly related to one of the activities in the list above. Projects focused solely on access/recreational activities or workforce development will not be considered. Projects focused only on monitoring and research will also not be considered.

The full scope of eligible activities can be found on [page 9 of the RFA](#).

Award Types:

1. Applications that aim to create a GLEJGP to provide funding for projects in a particular region of the Great Lakes Basin (\$10 million - \$20 million)
2. Applications that aim to create a GLEJGP to provide funding for projects across the entire Great Lakes Basin (\$2 million - \$10 million)

Matching Grant Requirements

None required

New or Existing Program

New program

Tips for Being Competitive

The central focus of this grant program is to advance environmental justice and fund projects that benefit underserved communities in the Great Lakes area. To achieve these goals, successful applicants should:

- Describe approach and criteria for identifying target underserved communities and explain how these criteria will be used in the subaward application solicitation, review, and selection process. Applicants can use the tools offered at [EJScreen](#) and/or the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) (CEJST), in conjunction with other environmental, health, and climate risk indicators, to define underserved communities.

- Demonstrate a strong understanding of the specific needs of target communities and describe current relationships with target communities
 - Describe an outreach approach that is broad and inclusive, to ensure all potentially interested underserved communities become aware of the Project RFA funding opportunity
 - Describe a robust and transparent process for selecting subaward applications that consider the needs of underserved communities within the Great Lakes Region
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Labor Requirements None specified

Partners Required None required. However, a principal recipient may choose to work with partners who would serve as Coalition Members to assist in the development and execution of a GLEJGP.

Agency Contact Cara Walsh (glri-rfa@epa.gov)

Upcoming Events EPA hosted an informational webinar on May 23, 2023. A webinar recording can be found [here](#).

Total Allocation \$30 million

Anticipated Award Date January 2024

How To Apply

1. Organizations applying to this funding opportunity must have an active SAM.gov and Grants.gov registration.
2. Email questions to GLRI-RFA@epa.gov with the subject line “RE: RFA EPA-I-R5-GL2023-GLEJGP” by August 4, 2023
3. Submit your application on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by August 11, 2023.

Resources

- [Request for Applications - EPA](#)
- [Grant Opportunity - Grants.gov](#)
- [GLEJGP Program Page - EPA](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions - EPA](#)
- [Application Support Resources - Environmental Protection Network](#)