

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants for State, Territory, Municipal, and Tribal Governments

Environmental Protection Agency

September 21, 2023

Table of Contents

CPRG Implementation Grants: General Competition Overview	2
CPRG Implementation Grants Program Objectives	2
Funding Availability	4
Eligibility	4
Eligible Projects	4
Eligible Applicants	5
Application Limits	8
Evaluation Criteria	8
Key Dates and Application Process	12
Notice of Intent to Apply	13
How to Apply	14
Additional Resources	15
Questions and Answers	15

Key Takeaways

- EPA's priorities are to fund implementation projects and policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, bring benefits to communities, and introduce transformative solutions that are scalable and replicable.
- Applicants to CPRG Implementation Grants must propose greenhouse gas reduction measures that are included in a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP).
- Municipalities outside of the geographic scope of MSA CPRG PCAPs are eligible to apply if their state created a PCAP.
- Potential applicants are strongly encouraged, but not required to submit an optional Notice of Intent to Apply by February 1, 2024.
- Applicants must have an active SAM.gov and Grants.gov registration. The process can take a month or more for new registrants so start early.

CPRG Implementation Grants: General Competition Overview

- On September 20, **EPA launched a \$4.3 billion competition** for states, local governments, tribes, and territories to fund policies and programs to cut climate pollution
- **EPA also launched \$300 million competition** for only tribes and territories to fund policies and programs to cut climate pollution
- These implementation grants build on \$250 million in CPRG planning grants EPA awarded this year
- CPRG is designed to create a localized approach to address environmental inequity, combat climate change, and build climate resilience
- Priorities are to fund projects and policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, bring benefits to communities, and introduce transformative solutions that are scalable and replicable
- A repeat of this webinar will be held on October 3rd. [Register here](#).

CPRG Implementation Grants Program Objectives



Implement ambitious measures that will achieve significant cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions by 2030 and beyond



Achieve substantial community benefits (such as reduction of criteria and hazardous air pollutants), particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities



Complement other funding sources to maximize these GHG reductions and community benefits



Pursue innovative policies and programs that are replicable and can be “scaled up” across multiple jurisdictions



Electric Power



Transportation



Industry



Residential & Commercial Buildings



Waste and Materials Management



Agriculture/ Natural & Working Lands



Applications
can include
GHG reduction
activities from
these sectors

- CPRG is designed to be broad and cover multiple sectors.
- EPA anticipates that applications focus on any sectors that have high emissions OR remove significant emissions. EPA understands that the applications will be tailored to local economies.

Types of GHG Reduction Measures

Applications may include multiple measures across one or more sectors.

EPA anticipates applications may seek funding for the following types of measures:

- A new, stand-alone GHG reduction measure that will be implemented solely through CPRG funding;
 - An expansion of a GHG reduction measure that is already being implemented, where the expansion of the measure will be funded through CPRG funding; and,
 - A new GHG reduction measure for which the applicant has already secured partial funding and needs additional funding from the CPRG program to secure the total funding needed to fully implement the measure.
- Applicants may propose one or more GHG reduction measures in their project.
 - Applicants may propose GHG reduction measures across one or more sectors as well.

Funding Availability

Tier	Grant Ranges (million)	Funds Targeted for Each Tier (billion)	Anticipated Number of Grants to be Awarded
Tier A	\$200 to \$500	\$2	4-10
Tier B	\$100 to <\$200	\$1.3	6-13
Tier C	\$50 to <\$100	\$0.6	6-12
Tier D	\$10 to <\$50	\$0.3	6-30
Tier E	\$2 to <\$10	\$0.1	10-50
	TOTAL	\$4.3 billion	30-115

General Competition funds will be available across five funding tiers.

Applications will be evaluated and selected for award on a tier-by-tier basis.

- Tier A provides opportunities to fund transformative change at a large scale of impact, while the smaller tiers can seed programs that make progress.
- Eligible applicants can apply to any tier. However, the tiered approach is intended to help applicants prioritize their projects and right-size the funding amount for the scale of impact.

Eligibility

Eligible Projects

Applications Must Implement GHG Measures in a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)



Applications may be from:

- Lead organization for Planning Grant **OR**
- Other eligible applicant that did not receive a Planning Grant.

GHG measures in an implementation grant application under the general competition must be included in an applicable PCAP submitted to EPA by **March 1, 2024**.

- An applicable PCAP is one that geographically includes the applicant and contains the GHG reduction measures that can be implemented by the applicant.

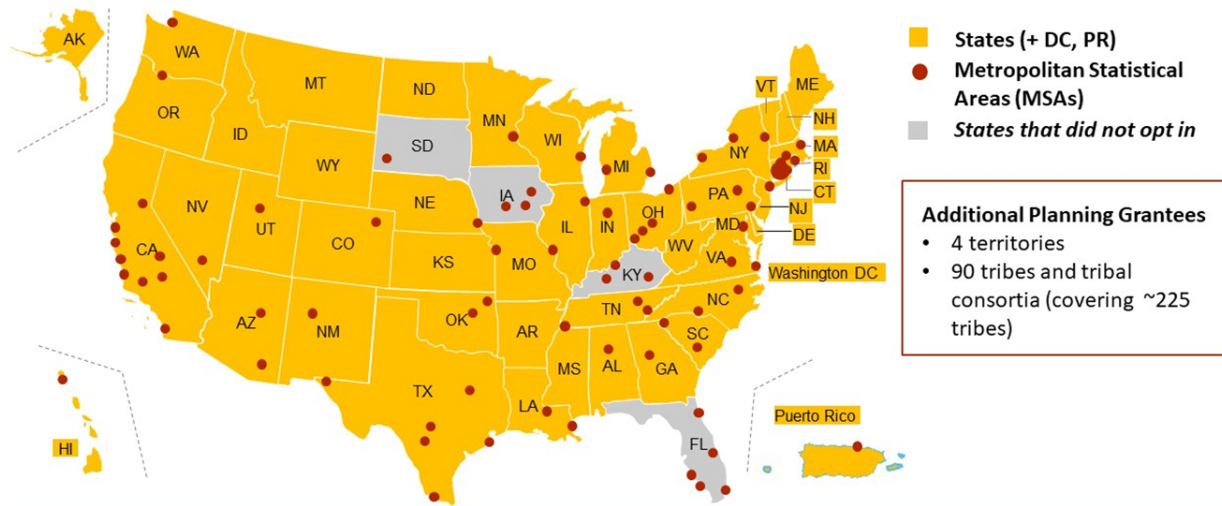
Coordination and communication between lead organization and other eligible applicants is encouraged.

- Eligible applicants should participate in PCAP development process.
 - Lead organizations should make draft PCAPs available as early as possible.
- Eligible applicants who did not receive a Planning Grant may apply if they are in a geographic area and GHG reduction measure that is covered by a PCAP.

- Example: A State received a Planning Grant and includes a GHG Reduction Measure to electrify transportation in cities in their PCAP. A city located in that state may apply to implement a transportation electrification project since it is covered by the PCAP.

CPRG Planning Grantees

Eligible applicants can review a [complete list of CPRG planning grantees](#)



Eligible Applicants

State and territorial agencies, municipalities, air pollution control agencies, tribes/tribal consortia, and coalitions thereof.

Individual applicant

- Single entity leading design and implementation of the measures.

Coalition

- Two or more eligible applicants with strong and substantial commitment such that withdrawal by one member would fundamentally alter project outcomes.
 - Coalition applications must include a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by all coalition partners demonstrating mutual commitment to project.
- For coalitions, one organization will serve as the lead applicant and the other coalition members would serve as sub-grantees

Eligible Applicants: States



Entity	Eligible	Ineligible
State (including District of Columbia and Puerto Rico)	Eligible state applicants are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead organizations for state CPRG planning grants • Other state agencies (including state air pollution control agencies), departments, or other executive branch-level offices 	State agencies (including state air pollution control agencies) in states that did not opt into the planning grants (Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, and South Dakota)

Eligible Applicants: Municipalities



Entity	Eligible	Ineligible
Municipality	A municipality can apply for funding to implement measures included in an applicable state, MSA, or territorial PCAP. Eligible applicants are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead organizations for MSA CPRG planning grants; • Other municipal agencies (including local air pollution control agencies), departments, or other municipal government offices; • Councils of government, metropolitan planning commissions, or other regional organizations comprised of multiple municipalities 	Municipalities and local air pollution control agencies in states that did not opt into the planning grants (Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, and South Dakota) that are not covered by a MSA PCAP developed for one of the 12 MSAs in these states that received a planning grant

- Municipalities outside of the MSA CPRG planning grant regions are eligible to apply if their state created a PCAP.

MSAs Receiving Planning Grants in Florida, Kentucky, Iowa, and South Dakota



- Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL Metro Area
- Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area
- Orlando–Kissimmee–Sanford, FL Metro Area
- Jacksonville, FL Metro Area
- North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton, FL Metro Area
- Des Moines-West Des Moines, IA Metro Area
- Cedar Rapids, IA Metro Area
- Iowa City, IA Metro Area
- Louisville/Jefferson County, KY-IN Metro Area
- Lexington-Fayette, KY Metro Area
- Bowling Green, KY Metro Area
- Rapid City, SD Metro Area

Eligible Applicants: Tribes



Entity	Eligible	Ineligible
Tribe or Tribal Consortium	<p>A tribe or tribal consortium can apply for funding to implement measures included in an applicable tribal, state, or MSA PCAP. Eligible applicants are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead organizations for tribal CPRG planning grants • Other tribal agencies (including tribal air pollution control agencies), departments, or other tribal government offices or tribal consortia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non federally recognized tribes • Alaska Native Corporations • Tribes or tribal consortia not covered by a state, MSA, or tribal PCAP

Eligible Applicants: Territories



Entity	Eligible	Ineligible
Territory	<p>Each territory covered by CPRG (American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) can apply for funding to implement measures included in its PCAP.</p> <p>Eligible applicants are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead organizations for CPRG planning grants for one of the territories above • Other territorial agencies (including territorial air pollution control agencies), departments, or other territorial government offices 	

- Tribes and Territories may compete in either the general competition or the Tribes and Territories competition.

Application Limits

An eligible applicant may:

- Submit one application as individual applicant; and
- Submit one application as lead applicant for a coalition; and
- Serve as a coalition partner on multiple applications.

EPA will not award CPRG implementation grants for the same measure in the same location.

- Entities should communicate and coordinate prior to submitting their application.

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria Summary – General Competition



EVALUATION CRITERIA SUMMARY	POINTS
1. Overall Summary and Approach	45
2. Impact of GHG Reduction Measures	60
3. Environmental Results - Outputs, Outcomes, and Performance Measures	30
4. Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities	35
5. Job Quality	5
6. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance	30
7. Budget	45
TOTAL	250

Evaluation Criteria: Section 1



Overall Project Summary and Approach	POINTS
1.a. Description of GHG Reduction Measures Provide description of each proposed GHG reduction measure; major features, milestones, and risks; and relationship of each measure to PCAP.	20
1.b. Demonstration of Funding Need Explain how other funding streams have been explored, applied for, and/or secured; why not sufficient; and why CPRG funds are needed.	10
1.c. Transformative Impact Demonstrate that proposed GHG reduction measures can create transformative opportunities or impacts leading to GHG reductions.	15
SUBTOTAL	45

Evaluation Criteria: Section 2



Impact of GHG Reduction Measures	POINTS
2.a. Magnitude of GHG Reductions from 2025 through 2030 Provide cumulative reductions from 2025 to 2030 that directly result from CPRG grant funding. Also describe durability of reductions.	20
2.b. Magnitude of GHG Reductions from 2025 through 2050 Provide cumulative reductions from 2025 to 2050 that directly result from CPRG grant funding. Also describe durability of reductions.	10
2.c. Cost Effectiveness of GHG Reductions Calculate: CPRG grant dollars divided by cumulative 2025-2030 reductions. Include qualitative narrative describing factors affecting cost-effectiveness.	15
2.d. Documentation of GHG Reduction Assumptions Provide methodologies, assumptions, and calculations used for 2a thru 2c.	15
SUBTOTAL	60

Evaluation Criteria: Section 3



Environmental Results – Outputs, Outcomes, and Performance Measures	POINTS
3.a. Expected Outputs and Outcomes Identify expected outputs and outcomes, including GHG reductions and emissions changes for criteria and hazardous air pollution.	10
3.b. Performance Measures and Plan Provide clear description of performance measures to track and report progress towards outputs and outcomes for each GHG measure.	10
3.c. Authorities, Implementation Timeline, and Milestones Identify roles/responsibilities for implementing each measure; describe legal/statutory authority; provide detailed implementation timeline.	10
SUBTOTAL	30

- Applicants need to demonstrate their authority to implement measures or, if they do not have the authority, how they will get it during the project period

Evaluation Criteria: Section 4



Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities	POINTS
<p>4.a. Community benefits Provide assessment of benefits and avoided disbenefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities. List affected census tracts/block groups. Describe plan to report a more thorough analysis of benefits, including co-pollutant reductions.</p>	25
<p>4.b. Community engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how input by low-income and disadvantaged communities has been incorporated into application. • Describe how meaningful engagement will be included in implementation. 	10
SUBTOTAL	35

Evaluation Criteria: Section 5



Job Quality	POINTS
<p>5. Job Quality The application will be evaluated on the quality of the response and extent to which it describes concrete strategies and commitments to ensure job quality, strong labor standards, and a diverse, highly skilled workforce for the implementation of the GHG reduction measures.</p>	5
SUBTOTAL	5

Evaluation Criteria: Section 6



Programmatic Capability and Past Performance	POINTS
6.a. Past performance Demonstrate successful management and completion of past grants.	10
6.b. Reporting requirements Demonstrate history of timely meeting reporting requirements; addressing insufficient progress; and submitting acceptable final reports.	10
6.c. Staff Expertise Demonstrate requisite organizational experience, staff expertise, and resources to obtain additional staffing to successfully achieve goals of the project.	10
SUBTOTAL	30

Evaluation Criteria: Section 7



Budget and Timely Expenditure of Grant Funds	POINTS
7.a. Budget detail Provides detailed breakout by funding type in the proper budget category for each activity.	20
7.b. Expenditure of awarded funds Demonstrates approach, procedures, and controls will ensure that funds will be expended in a timely and efficient manner.	15
7.c. Reasonableness of cost Demonstrate proposed grant expenditures are reasonable for accomplishing goals, objectives, and measurable outcomes.	10
SUBTOTAL	45

Key Dates and Application Process

Implementation Grants: Key Dates



*Anticipated Dates

- EPA is allowing for a long lead time between now and April 1, so that potential applicants can actively participate in the PCAP development process to position themselves to compete for the implementation grants.

Notice of Intent to Apply

Notices of Intent to Apply (NOI) are requested, but they are optional and non-binding.

For the general competition, submit via email to CPRG@epa.gov by February 1, 2024 and include:

- Applicant name;
- Amount of funding requested;
- 1-2 sentences about scope and sectors of GHG measures; and,
- List of anticipated coalition members (if applicable).

NOIs assist EPA in managing the grant review process.

- If your proposed project changes between the NOI and application due date, it will not negatively impact your evaluation.

How to Apply

All grant applications must be submitted through Grants.gov by April 1, 2024.

The application must include:

- Mandatory federal forms (see NOFO)
- Project narrative
 - Cover page (does not count toward 25 pages for workplan)
 - Workplan (up to 25 pages)
 - Budget narrative (up to 10 additional pages)
 - Technical appendix (up to 10 additional pages) documenting GHG emission reductions
- PDF copy of the applicable PCAP(s) serving as the basis for the application
- List of affected low income and disadvantaged communities
- Memorandum of agreement (coalition applications only)

Sample cover page,
budget spreadsheet,
and workplan outline
are available on
Grants.gov

Coalitions and MOAs



A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) must be included in any CPRG implementation grant funding application that is submitted by a coalition under the general competition.

The following elements should be included in an MOA:

- List of partner agencies committing to participate in the coalition
- The purpose of the MOA
- Description of agreed upon roles, responsibilities, and commitments of each partner and operating model for the coalition
- How the collaboration and partnerships associated with the coalition will benefit the project
- The resources each partner will contribute to the project
- A statement that the lead applicant accepts full responsibility for the performance of the coalition and will be accountable to EPA
- A statement that other coalition members who are grant subrecipients will be accountable to the lead applicant
- Authorized signatures of all coalition partners

For more information, see Appendix E of the NOFO.

Additional Resources

Upcoming Webinars

- September 27, 2pm Eastern: Tribes and Territories
- October 3, 2pm Eastern: General Competition*
- October 5, 1pm Eastern: Tribes and Territories*

**Repeat webinar*

Webinar Registration, NOFOs, Questions and Answers, Newsletter Signup

www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/climate-pollution-reduction-grants

Submit Questions to: cprg@epa.gov

- <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/cprg-implementation-grants>

Thinking of Applying?

All applicants must have an active SAM.gov and Grants.gov registration in order to apply for a grant under this program. You should register in these systems **now** if you think you may apply for a federal grant.

The process can take a month or more for new registrants.
[Information about how to register.](#)

Questions and Answers

- **Will there be subsequent rounds of CPRG funding in the future?**
 - EPA does not envision future rounds.
- **With the PCAPs being due only a month before the grant deadline, especially for applicants who are not direct recipients of Planning Grants, how can they complete implementation grant applications?**
 - In the Planning Grant phase, EPA requires the lead organization to collaborate with other governmental agencies during the development of deliverables, including the PCAP. This collaborative process should give potential applicants a window into the strategies that will be integrated into the final PCAP.
 - By announcing the implementation grants now, EPA wants to encourage potential applicants to get involved with PCAP development processes now, if they haven't already.
- **Are there specific projects that EPA is looking for?**
 - The eligibility is intentionally broad. Because communities are going through the PCAP process, we expect that this planning process will inform which policies and programs will be most impactful for GHG emissions reductions and disadvantaged communities.