

**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure
Rehabilitation and Restoration Project**

**Notice of Funding Opportunity
Summary Information**

	Data Field	
1.	Awarding Agency Name:	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA)
2.	Agency Contact:	Christine Davis epa.bowgrants@illinois.gov 217-782-3362
3.	Announcement Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial announcement <input type="checkbox"/> Modification of a previous announcement
4.	Type of Assistance Instrument:	Grant
5.	Funding Opportunity Number:	WWCTIR&R01
6.	Funding Opportunity Title:	Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Restoration Project
7.	CSFA Number:	NA
8.	CSFA Popular Name:	WWCT Infrastructure R&R
9.	CFDA Number(s):	NA
10.	Anticipated Number of Awards:	1 grant award
11.	Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$ 10,000,000
12.	Award Range:	Not applicable. No set maximum or minimum amount
13.	Source of Funding:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal or federal pass-through <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Private / other funding
14.	Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
15.	Indirect Costs Allowed: Restrictions on Indirect Costs:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, provide the citation governing the restriction:
16.	Posted Date:	September 1, 2021
17.	Application Range:	September 1, 2021 through noon (CST) on September 30, 2021
18.	Technical Assistance Session:	Session Offered: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Session Mandatory: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Restoration Project (Project)

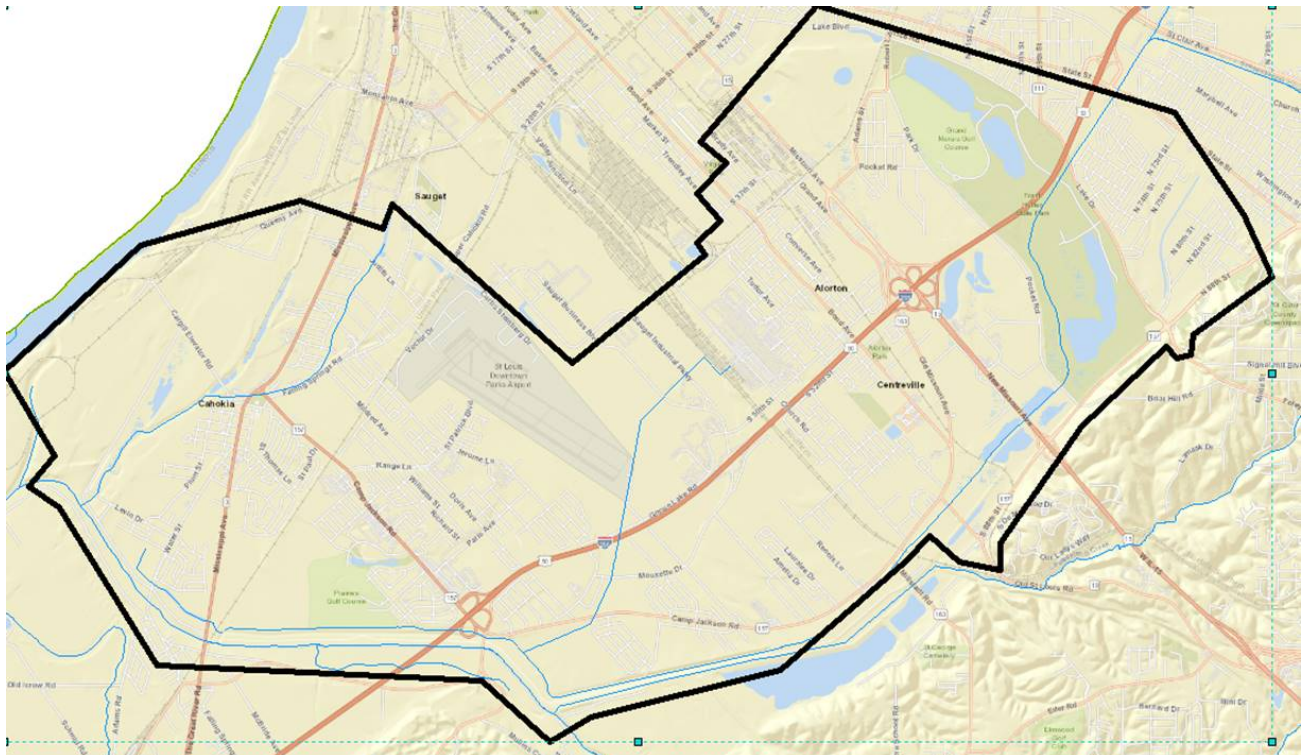
Notice of Funding Opportunity Detailed Information

A. Program Description

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to advise potential applicants of the availability of the Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Restoration Project (Project) grant award.

The goal of this Project is to improve the quality of life of Illinoisans. The intent of this grant is to fund wastewater collection and transport infrastructure rehabilitation and restoration for the municipality of Cahokia Heights. Eligible activities can include, but are not limited to, lift station and sewer collection system improvements. In addition, equipment necessary for future operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer collection system within the Project Area is eligible, as agreed to by the Grantor.

PROJECT AREA



Examples of eligible Project components/activities are provided below. The list is not all-inclusive, and inclusion of a component/activity does not equate to an automatic eligibility for funding under the NOFO.

Examples of eligible components/activities:

Lift Stations

- Upgrade or rehabilitation of existing lift stations
- Replacement of existing pump(s) or additional pump(s)
- Rail system and float system installation or replacement
- Electrical system and control panel renovation or replacement
- Alternative pumping capability upgrades (e.g., stand-by generator installation, quick connect coupler installation, portable pumping capability)

Sewer Collection System

- Repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing gravity sewer mains, force mains, and sewer laterals
 - Targeting specific (I/I) source(s) and structural defects
- Sewer manhole repairs and renovation
- Smoke testing and television of sewer mains to identify infiltration and inflow (I/I) source(s)
- Direct illicit sewer connection removal

Other actions to:

- Provide sufficient collection and transport of existing and future wastewater flows during both dry-and wet-weather conditions
- Comply with regulatory requirements for reserve capacity and prevention of prohibited Sanitary Service Overflows (SSO); and
- Meet the level of service expected by customers to avoid system surcharging that may lead to basement or service backups.

Illinois EPA will rank the applications according to the criteria outlined in Section E.2. The grant will be awarded to the applicant that proposes the most time-efficient, cost-effective project that will yield the best rehabilitation and/or restoration of the wastewater collection and transport facilities within the specified Project area.

The anticipated start date for the approved Project is March 15, 2022. Project length is up to three years (36 months), however, most of the components/activities should be implemented within the first 24 months of the Project, unless otherwise approved by Illinois EPA.

Project applicants may propose to subcontract portions of the Project to other appropriate entities to assist with implementation of the project components.

B. Funding Information

Illinois EPA expects to release one award, up to **\$10.0 Million**. This grant award utilizes Build Illinois Bond Funds for the rehabilitation and/or restoration of wastewater collection and transport facilities within the Project Area identified in Section A of this NOFO.

The grant allows for up to a 25/75 split among upfront and reimbursement award payments. The grantee and grantor will negotiate the final grant agreement to specify a payment schedule and conditions for upfront payment of up to 25% of the total grant award. The remaining grant award payments will be reimbursement. The grantee must perform the work, pay project costs, and submit invoice(s) with supporting documentation before Illinois EPA will reimburse the grantee for the remaining approved eligible costs.

Illinois EPA shall only make reimbursements to the grantee and shall reimburse the grantee no more frequently than monthly.

The Illinois EPA may elect to partially fund an application by funding discrete portions or phases of the Project scope of work. This could be due to ineligible or low priority components identified in the application or inadequate funds available to complete the entire Project.

C. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

The applicant must also be a Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Pre-Qualified entity that has legal status to accept funds from the State of Illinois. Eligible applicants will include any unit of government that has legal authority to perform rehabilitation and restoration work on publicly owned wastewater collection and transport infrastructure systems within the Project Area identified in Section A. of this NOFO.

The Illinois EPA cannot make the Project award to an applicant who fails to meet the GATA Pre-Qualification criterion defined in Section E.1. Applicants that do not meet this criterion will be deemed ineligible. Proof of eligibility is required at the time the application is submitted.

Project applicants must have the financial ability to initiate the Project, pay expenses, and then request reimbursement from the Illinois EPA, while continuing to finance their normal operating expenses.

2. Project Match

No project match is required.

3. Indirect Cost Rate

In order to charge indirect costs to a grant, the applicant must have an annually negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA). There are three types of NICRAs:

1. Federally Negotiated Rate. Organizations that receive direct federal funding may have an indirect cost rate that was negotiated with their federal cognizant agency. The State of Illinois will accept the federally negotiated rate. The applicant must provide a copy of the federal NICRA.
2. State Negotiated Rate. The applicant must negotiate an indirect cost rate with the State of Illinois if they do not have Federally Negotiated Rate or elect NOT to use the De Minimis Rate. The indirect cost rate proposal must be submitted to the State of Illinois within 90 days of the Effective Date of State Award.
3. De Minimis Rate. An organization that **has never received** a State or Federally Negotiated Rate may elect a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct cost (MTDC). Once established, the de minimis rate may be used indefinitely. The State of Illinois must verify the calculation of the MTDC annually in order to accept the de minimis rate.

An applicant has the discretion not to claim payment or match for indirect costs. Applicants that elect not to claim indirect costs cannot be reimbursed or credited match for indirect costs.

D. Application and Submission Information

Applicants **shall not apply** for the Project until the applicant has pre-qualified through the GATA Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov.

1. Content and Form of Application Submission

A complete Project application must include the following:

- a) Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance
- b) Uniform Grant Budget Template
 - Entire 23-page budget with all worksheets included
- c) Project Details Document
- d) Support Documentation (as applicable)
 - Location maps
- e) Illinois Works Jobs Act Forms

The applicant must describe how the Project will be implemented and identify interim milestones for implementing the outputs or accomplishments along with an associated schedule for completion of those milestones. Milestones should include: the steps to identify, prioritize, and implement the rehabilitation and/or restoration components/activities for the wastewater collection and transport facilities and how the businesses and residents within the project area will be involved and kept apprised of the Project progress.

The applicant must describe the expected outcomes of the Project in terms of implementation of the components and activities to rehabilitate and/or restore wastewater collection and transport facilities within the specified Project area. The outcomes are the important changes that are to be set in motion or supported by the Project. These changes may be expected to appear on different time scales.

- Short term outcomes can include creation of a well-balanced identification and prioritization system to determine the implementation sequence of the rehabilitation and restoration components/activities.
- Intermediate term outcomes can include things such as increased local interest/investment in implementation and O&M of the rehabilitation and/or restoration of wastewater collection and transport facilities.

- Long term outcomes can include the reduction of the number, size, and frequency of Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) and/or Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) events, and the operation and maintenance of the wastewater collection and transport facilities.

The Project application is available at Illinois EPA's website at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/forms/water-forms/Pages/financial-assistance.aspx>

Paper copies of the Project application are available upon request by contacting the Watershed Management Section (WMS) at (217) 782-3362.

The Illinois EPA requires the Project applicants to use the current application forms provided in the link above or in the GATA Portal. These forms are designed to allow the Illinois EPA and the Evaluation Panel to obtain enough information to properly evaluate the application.

All Project forms that require a signature must be signed by persons authorized by the applicant organization to enter into formal contractual agreements. A scan of the original signature is required. Electronic signatures are not acceptable.

The narrative application materials, including application and budget forms, must be formatted to letter-sized paper and type font should be 10-point or greater. Designs and drawings may be submitted formatted on larger paper.

All Project descriptions, proposals, charts, tables, designs, and cost estimates on separate sheets should be labeled with the Project title.

If an applicant makes significant changes to the scope of work after the application deadline, the application will be rejected.

Applications must be submitted in an electronic format. Submissions can be made either:

- a) By email using the [Illinois.Gov File Transfer tool](#) to epa.bowgrants@illinois.gov. Include the project title and applicant name in the "Message to Recipient" box. **Do NOT** email files direct, without the file transfer tool, as the Illinois EPA firewall might reject the application. Contact the Watershed Management Section (WMS) at (217) 782-3362 regarding the use of the file transfer tool including file size limitations or potential firewall issues.

or

- b) By mailing or delivering the application on a CD or USB directly to:

US Postal Service Mailing Address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water, WMS #15
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Attention: Christine Davis

Delivery Address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water, WMS #15
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Attention: Christine Davis

2. Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and System for Award Management (SAM)

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or federal or State awarding agency that is exempt from those requirements under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the federal or State awarding agency under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110(d) is required to:

- a) be registered in SAM **before** submitting its application (Register at: <https://www.sam.gov/>);
- b) provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and
- c) maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal, federal pass-through, or State award or an application or plan under consideration by a federal or State awarding agency.

Verifications are performed including a check of the federal Debarred and Suspended list and status on the Illinois Stop Payment List. An automated email notification from the GATA Portal to the entity alerts them of 'qualified' status or informs how to remediate a negative verification (e.g., inactive DUNS, not in good standing with the Secretary of State). A federal Debarred and Suspended status cannot be remediated.

The Illinois EPA shall not make an award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the application deadline, the Illinois EPA shall determine the applicant as not qualified to receive an award. The Illinois EPA shall use that determination as a basis to make an award to another qualified applicant.

3. Submission Dates and Times

Project applications are accepted by Illinois EPA until September 30, 2021. The complete electronic copy of the application, per Section D.1., must be received at Illinois EPA's Springfield office by noon (CST) on September 30, 2021, to be considered for funding under this NOFO.

The Illinois EPA shall not extend the application deadline date. Incomplete and late applications shall 1) not be considered for funding, 2) not be returned to the applicant, and 3) preclude the Illinois EPA from making an award to the applicant.

The Illinois EPA shall use the date and time of the Illinois.gov File Transfer Tool confirmation of receipt email, or the date-stamp applied by Illinois EPA to mailed or hand-delivered electronic applications when received, to determine whether an application has been submitted on or before the deadline.

The Illinois EPA shall send a letter to the applicant acknowledging receipt of the application. Applicants shall be notified, at this time, if their application was not considered for funding due to an incomplete or late application submittal or if they were not pre-qualified in the GATA Grantee Portal by the application deadline.

4. Funding Restrictions

The grantee must have Illinois EPA's approval prior to incurring costs for implementation of any part of the Project. In addition, costs incurred prior to the grant agreement's effective term date or after its term ends are ineligible for reimbursement.

Project administrative costs, for activities such as quarterly and final reporting, outreach/education, and invoicing, etc., shall not exceed one (1) percent of the total project cost.

Grantees shall not use any subcontractors, outside associates, or consultants in connection with any services covered by the grant agreement unless specifically authorized by the Illinois EPA.

Grantees shall use procurement procedures that reflect applicable local and State of Illinois laws and regulations relating to any sub agreements for the performance of grant projects funded under this NOFO.

Partial funding may be offered if sufficient funds are not available to fund an entire application.

Examples of ineligible activities, tasks, and components that shall not be funded through the Project are provided below. The list is not all-inclusive:

- Activities that do not cause the rehabilitation and/or restoration of the wastewater collection and transport facilities in the Project area.
- Any activity or component that is in conflict with State or federal law or State or federal permit, including activities required or anticipated to be required by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations, including Phase 1 and Phase 2 stormwater permit requirements
- Bonus or acceleration payments to contractors to meet contractual completion dates for construction; fees for failure to pay invoices on time, check overdrafts, etc.,
- Mitigation costs
- Costs for food, drink, or entertainment

E. Application Review Information

1. Application Eligibility

If the answer to **any** of the following Administrative Criterion or GATA Pre-Qualification Criterion questions is **No**, the application shall not be considered for funding.

Administrative Criterion			Yes	No
Did the applicant meet all of the following requirements for Merit-Based Review eligibility?				
	Yes	No		
Fields are completed with requested information and boxes checked, as applicable				
Application submitted electronically to the epa.bowgrants@illinois.gov address or delivered in an electronic format to Illinois EPA Headquarters (see page 6 for address)				
Application received by the Illinois EPA by noon (CST) on September 30, 2021				
Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance with completed/scanned signature block				
Uniform Grant Budget Template with completed/scanned signature block				
Project Details Narrative (with support documentation submitted)				
GATA Pre-Qualification Criterion			Yes	No
Did the applicant meet all of the following pre-qualification requirements through the GATA Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov , by noon (CST) on September 30, 2021?				
	Yes	No		
Has a valid DUNS number in the GATA Portal				
Has a current SAM.gov account number in the GATA Portal				
Is not listed on the Federal Excluded Parties List				
Is in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State				
Is not listed on the Illinois Stop Payment list				
Is not listed on the Department of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions List				

2. Criteria

All applications shall be reviewed for completeness, technical merit, cost effectiveness, and adherence to the competitive grant evaluation criteria described in this NOFO. Applications found to be complete shall undergo a comprehensive, merit-based review performed in compliance with GATA Legislation, 30 ILCS 708 and Uniform Administrative Requirements; 2 C.F.R. § 200. The merit-based review is designed to evaluate the applications against the following criteria:

General Quality of Application (0.1 – 1.0 points)

- The applicant is pre-registered in the GATA Portal
- All required components (see Section D.1.) are submitted and complete
 - (including an original or scan of all required signature)
- The Project information submitted is sufficient, consistent, and correct

Quality of Proposal (0.1 – 2.0 points)

- Project is consistent with the intent of the NOFO
- Applicant, or a Project partner, has the legal authority and financial ability to complete the Project
- Proposed components/activities shall rehabilitate and/or restore the wastewater collection and transport infrastructure systems within the Project Area as identified in Section A of the NOFO
- Steps needed to fully implement the Project are identified and will be used to track measurable overall Project progress
- Project includes a process to identify, rank, and implement the most vital components and activities to rehabilitate and/or restore the wastewater collection and transport infrastructure system; with priority for those components and activities that will eliminate SSOs, system surcharging, and/or basement or service backups
- Timeline is appropriate for the tasks and milestones outlined
- Budget line items are justified in the Project narrative

Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes (0.1 – 2.0 points)

- Development and implementation of an outreach plan to ensure that local residents and businesses are notified of Project and progress throughout the entire agreement period
- Implementation of rehabilitation and/or restoration components/activities for wastewater collection and transport facilities within the Project Area that eliminate SSOs and system surcharging that lead to basement or service backups

Cost Effectiveness (0.1 – 1.0 points)

- Budget is detailed and clearly presented
- Project costs are limited to eligible components and activities within the Project Area
- Project's components and/or activities are cost-effective and/or comparable to other rehabilitation and/or restoration of wastewater collection and transport facilities projects

Addresses Need and Environmental Significance (0.1 – 2.0 points)

- Project will reduce or eliminate the number and duration of prohibited SSOs within the Project area
- Project will reduce system surcharging that leads to basement or service backups, with priority given to locations that are either within 1) an Environmental Justice Area (defined by Illinois EPA) and/or 2) an area identified by or reported to Illinois EPA and/or U.S. EPA located within the Project Area
- Project will protect or improve water quality in local surface water resources
- Project will improve local resident's quality of life

Financial Integrity (0.1 – 1.0 points)

- Applicant has the financial ability to complete the project

Programmatic Capability, Technical Experience and Qualifications (0.1 – 1.0 points)

- Applicant, or its consultant or partner, can successfully manage and complete the Project
- Applicant, or its consultant or partner, has strong staff expertise/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the intent of the NOFO

3. Review and Selection Process

The complete applications shall be reviewed by an Evaluation Panel that is composed of Illinois EPA, Bureau of Water (BOW) staff.

Each application shall be reviewed in-depth by the entire Evaluation Panel

Illinois EPA's WMS shall solicit peer reviews on the applications from:

- within the Illinois EPA regional offices in which the project is located, and
- within Illinois EPA's Fiscal department for a fiscal and administrative review

The peer reviews shall not generate a numerical score but will provide information for the Evaluation Panel to consider while conducting the merit-based review.

The Evaluation Panel shall be convened to discuss the applications, peer review comments, and other relevant information. Using the merit-based review criteria, as provided in Section E.2., each member of the Evaluation Panel shall individually score each application on a scale of 0.7 (worst) to 10 (best) independently of the whole panel. Each Evaluation Panel member shall then give the application a numeric score. These individual scores shall be shared with the whole Evaluation Panel and recorded on a summary score sheet that shows the comparative scores. Any significant or substantial variance between member's scores shall be reviewed and documented, including voluntary revision of individual scores.

The final individual scores shall be converted into a composite average score for each application and ranked accordingly. The Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Restoration Project funds will be awarded per the NOFO, to the highest ranked project.

Additional review and selection processes are provided below.

- If the amount of available grant funding is not sufficient to fund the application in its entirety, the Evaluation Panel shall review the application to determine if a discrete portion or phase of the Project meeting the mission of this NOFO can be funded. If the Evaluation Panel determines that it cannot fund the application in full or part, the next highest-ranked application will be reviewed for a discrete portion or phase to be funded to meet the mission of the NOFO.
- If the Evaluation Panel determines that an applicant incorrectly calculated or indicated the project cost, match, and/or total funding request based on the applicable cost estimate, required match, or eligible costs, the application shall still be accepted and reviewed. If the applicant is awarded the grant, the Illinois EPA shall contact the applicant and request a decision from the applicant as to whether it will accept the award based on the Illinois EPA's determination of the project cost and/or total funding requested. If the applicant does not accept the Illinois EPA's determination, the application shall not be funded.

4. Appeal Process

An appeal process is available to applicants and other interested parties; however, appeals are limited to the Illinois EPA evaluation process. Evaluation scores may not be protested. An appeal must be submitted in writing to the following address: Illinois EPA, Attn: **Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Restoration Project, Bureau of Water, 1021 N. Grand Avenue, Mail Code #15, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276** and must be received within 14 calendar days after the date that the grant award notice has been published by the Illinois EPA on Grants.Illinois.gov. The written appeal shall include at a minimum the following: the name and address of the appealing party, identification of the grant, and a statement of reasons for the appeal. Illinois EPA shall acknowledge receipt of an appeal within fourteen (14) calendar days from the date the appeal was received.

When an appeal is received, the execution of the grant agreement that Illinois EPA intends to make under this NOFO shall be stayed until the appeal is resolved.

Illinois EPA shall respond to the appeal within 60 days or supply a written explanation to the appealing party as to why additional time is required. The appealing party must supply any additional information requested by Illinois EPA within the time period set in the request. The Director of the Illinois EPA may appoint one or more Appeal Review Officers (ARO) to consider the grant-related appeal and make a recommendation to the Director of the Illinois EPA or designee for resolution. The ARO shall make a recommendation to the Director of the Illinois EPA or designee as expeditiously as possible after receiving all relevant, requested information. In determining the appropriate recommendation, the ARO shall consider the integrity of the competitive grant process and the impact of the recommendation on the Illinois EPA. The Illinois EPA shall resolve the appeal by means of written determination, which shall include, but not be limited to: review of the appeal, appeal determination, and rationale for the determination.

5. Anticipated Announcement and State Award Dates

Illinois EPA's WMS shall present a written summary of all the applications received to the Chief of the Bureau of Water and the Director of the Illinois EPA. This summary shall include confirmation that the NOFO was followed and the findings and recommendations of the Evaluation Panel, including application rank and funding recommendation.

By October 31, 2021, Illinois EPA expects to send written notice to each applicant whose application was not selected for funding.

Following a decision of intent to award, the Illinois EPA is required by GATA to conduct a fiscal and administrative risk assessment and programmatic risk assessment of the applicant. Additional information may be required at that time from the successful applicant. To remain eligible for the award, the applicant must provide the requested information within the time specified by the Illinois EPA. The Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Questionnaire is available on the GATA Portal. The Programmatic Risk Assessment is provided by Illinois EPA. These assessments evaluate the applicant's ability to successfully carry out the terms of Project and assess four risk categories: 1) quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards; 2) history of performance; 3) reports and findings from audits performed on prior awards; and 4) the applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on a grantee.

By December 15, 2021, the Illinois EPA expects to send the "Notice of State Award" to the successful grant applicant for signature. The Notice of State Award (NOSA) will specify the funding terms and specific conditions resulting from the pre-award risk assessments. The NOSA must be signed and returned by an authorized representative of the grantee organization. **The NOSA is not an authorization to begin performance or incur costs.**

By February 11, 2022, Illinois EPA expects to send a grant agreement to the grant recipient for signature.

By March 15, 2022, Illinois EPA expects to provide a fully executed grant agreement to the grant recipient. A fully executed grant agreement is authorization for the grant recipient to begin work on the Project.

Action by Illinois EPA	Target Dates
Notify applicants that their application was received.	October 15, 2021
Notify unsuccessful applicants that their application was not selected for funding.	October 31, 2021
Send a Notice of State Award to the selected applicant for signature.	December 15, 2021
Send a Grant Agreement to the selected applicant for signature.	February 11, 2022
Provide a fully executed Grant Agreement to the grantee.	March 15, 2022

The anticipated start date for the approved project is **March 15, 2022**.

F. Award Administration Information

1. Notice of State Award (NOSA)

The Illinois EPA shall issue a Notice of State Award (NOSA) to the successful grant applicant. The NOSA shall specify the funding terms and specific conditions resulting from the Fiscal and Administrative and Programmatic Risk Assessments. The NOSA must be accepted by an authorized representative of the grant applicant before a grant agreement can be sent to the applicant. **A NOSA is not an authorization to begin project activities or incur costs.**

2. Administrative, State, and National Policy Requirements

The terms and conditions of the award shall be specified in the NOSA and the grant agreement.

No grantee shall receive a grant or any other State or federal assistance that would provide 100 percent or more of the eligible project costs.

Each grantee must agree to comply with all applicable federal and State requirements. This includes Uniform Administrative Requirements, 2 C.F.R. § 200, Executive Order 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs", and GATA. These can have a significant impact on the costs and complexity of a project. Project grantees will be expected to submit signed assurances that they will comply with all federal mandates, including:

- a) The Interagency Wetland Policy Act of 1989; 20 ILCS 830/: In accordance with the Interagency Wetland Policy Act of 1989, a grantee whose proposed project site is located on or within 250 feet of a wetland site listed on the National Wetlands Inventory will be required

to comply with the requirements of the Act. This includes developing a plan to minimize adverse impacts on wetlands or providing written evidence that the proposed project will not have an adverse impact on a wetland. Project must also comply with Federal Wetlands Protection regulations at 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(b)(2), which may require preparation of an Eight-Step Wetlands Review.

- b) Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act; 520 ILCS 10/ and the Illinois Natural Area Preservation Act; 525 ILCS 30: The Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act requires consultation with the Endangered Species Consultation Program of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to assure compliance. The consultation process must be implemented to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to State-listed species and their essential habitats that may result from the actions of State and local units of government. Grantees must certify the completion of the consultation process.
- c) Illinois Prevailing Wage Act; 820 ILCS 130/: The Illinois Prevailing Wage Act requires the payment of prevailing wages for all construction funded in whole or in part with State funds, including funds passed through to private firms. Grantees shall comply with all requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act, including but not limited to, inserting into all contracts for construction a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing rate of wages as applicable to the project shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics performing work under the award and requiring all bonds of contractors to include a provision as will guarantee the faithful performance of such prevailing wage clause as provided by contract. Grantees will be required to report on Prevailing Wage Act compliance. If your project involves construction and/or equipment installation, go to <https://www2.illinois.gov/idol/Laws-Rules/CONMED/Pages/prevailing-wage-act.aspx> for more information.
- d) Illinois Works Jobs Program Act; 30 ILCS 559/: Grantees must comply with requirements in the Illinois Works Jobs Program Act. For grants with an estimated total project cost of \$500,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative; 30 ILCS 559/20-20 to 559/20-25 and all applicable administrative rules. The “estimated total project cost” is a good faith approximation, at the time an applicant submits a grant application, of the costs of an entire project being paid for in whole or in part by appropriated capital funds to construct a public work. The goal of the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative is that apprentices will perform either 10% of the total labor hours actually worked in each prevailing wage classification or 10% of the estimated labor hours in each prevailing wage classification, whichever is less. Grantees will be permitted to seek a waiver or reduction of this goal in certain circumstances pursuant to 30 ILCS 559/20-20(b). The grantee must ensure compliance for the life of the entire Project, including during the term of the grant and after the term ends, if applicable, and will be required to report on and certify its compliance.
- e) Business Enterprise Program for Minorities, Females, and Person with Disabilities Act; 30 ILCS 575/: For grant awards of \$250,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Business Enterprise Program for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act, which establishes a goal for contracting with businesses that have been certified as owned and controlled by persons who are minority, female, or who have disabilities. The grantee must document a plan for compliance prior to the establishment of the grant agreement and ensure compliance through the life of the grant.
- f) The National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories; 40 C.F.R. § 63: These standards assure that, when existing buildings are demolished and/or renovated, people outside of those buildings (e.g., passers-by or neighborhood residents) are protected from airborne asbestos. If asbestos materials are involved in the rehabilitation work, the grantee must contact the Field Operations Section, Bureau of Air of the Illinois EPA to ensure compliance with Asbestos NESHAP.

In the grant agreement, the grantee shall be required to:

- Certify that it does and shall comply with all provisions of the federal Internal Revenue Code (26 USC 1), the Illinois Income Tax Act; (35 ILCS 5/), and all rules promulgated thereunder, including withholding provisions and timely deposits of employee taxes and unemployment insurance taxes.
- Certify that it does and shall comply with the reporting requirements of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006; PL 109–282, September 26, 2006, 120 Stat 1186 with respect to federal Awards greater than or equal to \$25,000.
- Certify that it shall adhere to the applicable Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements, which are published in Title 2, Part 200 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and are incorporated herein by reference. See 44 Ill. Adm. Code 7000.30(b)(1)(A).
- Certify that it and its sub-grantees shall: (i) be registered with the federal SAM if seeking an Award that is partially or fully paid by federal funds and registered with the State equivalent of SAM; (ii) be in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State; and (iii) have a valid DUNS number. It is Grantee's responsibility to remain current with these registrations and requirements. If Grantee's status with regard to any of these requirements change, or the certifications made in and information provided in the Uniform Grant Application changes, Grantee's must notify the Grantor in accordance with ARTICLE XVIII.
- Submit a Wastewater Rehabilitation and Restoration (WWCT Infrastructure R&R) Project Documentation Form Part I" with designs, maps, and supporting documentation for all proposed components, including components installed with matching funds. The designs must be certified by a registered or licensed professional engineer of Illinois or Missouri. The designs must be approved by the Illinois EPA, Bureau of Water prior to the start of construction or implementation.
- Secure applicable State and federal permits for all components/activities of the Project, including those installed with matching funds, prior to the start of their implementation.
- Develop and submit a 10-year O&M Plan for the Wastewater Collection and Transport Infrastructure located within the Project area. O&M Plans must be approved by the Illinois EPA's before implementation begins and is for a minimum of ten (10) years starting from the completion date of the Project.
- Submit a WWCT Infrastructure R&R Documentation Form Part II with cost documentation and photos and/or video of the Project sites while under construction.
- Submit personnel activity reports accounting on an after-the-fact basis for 100% of the employee's actual time, separately indicating the time spent on the Project grant, other grants or projects, vacation or sick leave, and administrative time, if applicable.

3. Reporting

The Project requires quarterly reporting of progress and a final project evaluation and report. Quarterly progress reports shall include both a Periodic Financial Report and a Periodic Performance Report.

The Project requires a final project report. The grantee shall submit to the Illinois EPA, by the date specified in the grant agreement, a report explaining the execution of the Project and evaluation of the Project's success. The report shall document the Project tasks and summarize the findings, costs, and benefits of the Project.

G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)

If you have any programmatic questions regarding the Project, this NOFO, or the Project details narrative or support documentation requirements, contact the Illinois EPA's WMS staff at:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water, NPS Unit #15
1021 North Grand Avenue East; P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
Email: epa.bowgrants@illinois.gov
Phone: (217) 782-3362

If you have fiscal and administrative questions regarding the Uniform Grant Application, the Uniform Grant Budget Template, Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ), or pre-qualifying through the GATA Grantee Portal, contact the Illinois EPA's Fiscal staff at:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Fiscal
1021 North Grand Avenue East; P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
Email: max.paller@illinois.gov
Phone: (217) 558-3386

H. Other Information

Additional information about the Project, can be found on Illinois EPA's website <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/forms/water-forms/Pages/financial-assistance.aspx>.

Illinois EPA has the right to use (including, but not limited to, citing to, circulating, displaying, and reproducing) all products that result from the grantee receiving financial assistance under the grant agreement whether the product is developed by the grantee or a sub-grantee.

Illinois EPA is not obligated to make any grant award as a result of this NOFO.